BRAVE LITTLE TOASTER

Rewrite by John Derevlany

(Based on the 1987 film, "Brave Little Toaster")

Current Draft: Nov. 27, 2015

John Derevlany 310-287-1232 johnderevlany@yahoo.com

INT. KITCHEN IN CABIN - DAY

EXTREME CLOSE UP ON: a shiny chrome edge. At first, we're not sure what it is. The edge of a sword? An alien space ship? CAMERA MOVES dramatically along it as we hear...

TOASTER (V.O.)

(with heroic intensity)
Destiny. We all have one.

As CAMERA continues to move across the mysterious surface...

TOASTER (V.O.)

A reason for which we are chosen. For which we are built. For me, I fight, I live, I dream... For one purpose and one purpose only.

The CAMERA WIDENS to REVEAL: this mysterious surface is actually the edge of a classic, two-slice, pop-up TOASTER... with a smiling face and friendly eyes... who now talks in a excitedly chipper voice (like a happy-go-lucky, pre-teen).

TOASTER

To make toast!

Suddenly, two perfectly-toasted slices POP UP out of Toaster's top. BLINX, a nightlight with a face (and an attitude), smiles and nods approvingly from the nearby wall.

BLINX

Nice work, Toaster.

TOASTER

You think? It always cooks better when I get all intense like that.
(ultra-dramatic again)

I... AM... TOASTER.

Blinx LAUGHS hysterically when he hears this.

BLINX

(chuckling)

That's soooooo funny!

(imitating him)

I... AM... NIGHTLIGHT.

Now Toaster LAUGHS too. They are both chuckling when KIRBY, an old fashioned, upright vacuum cleaner with a cranky (but caring) attitude rolls over and HUSHES them.

KIRBY

Guys... GUYS! He's coming!

TOASTER

Oh, sorry!

We hear little footsteps approaching. Toaster and Blinx struggle to restrain their laughter. Finally, their faces disappear and they are just appliances again as...

YOUNG ROB, a 3-year old boy, charges into the kitchen like a tornado of joy.

YOUNG ROB

My toast! My toast! My toast!

Young Rob is instantly sliding a stool up to the counter and climbing up on it so he can retrieve his toast. He "speaks" to Toaster like a playful little kid (but humans and appliances can NOT talk to each other in this world)

YOUNG ROB

Oohh... Thank you, Toaster. You're the best toaster ever!!!

Young Rob then climbs down and races out to the (separate) living room. As soon as he is gone... TOASTER'S FACE returns to his chrome exterior. He smiles broadly. He continues his narration, but this time in his normal voice.

TOASTER (V.O.)

(proudly)

Yep. I know. That's what I do. I am Toaster! And that nightlight behind me is Blinx. Radio's playing our tunes up top.

ANGLE ON RADIO, a vintage-looking, 1950s-style radio, on an upper shelf, playing upbeat POP MUSIC.

TOASTER (V.O.)

That lovesick desklamp over there is Watson.

ANGLE ON WATSON, a goose-necked desk lamp with a round, incandescent bulb and a female voice. She stares longingly at pictures of lamps in a department store catalog. The beam from her light forms a "heart shape" around a "handsome"-looking lamp in the catalogue. Watson makes a LOVESICK SIGH.

TOASTER (V.O.)

And the fuzzy, lovey guy coming towards me? That's BLANKIE.

BLANKIE, an old, woolen, electric blanket, forms his corners into leg-like shapes and crawls across the counter towards them. He speaks like a very needy little boy.

BLANKIE

(gleefully)

Huq! Huq! Huq!

Blankie wraps his "arms" and body around Toaster, giving him a hug. Toaster smiles and hugs Blankie back.

TOASTER (V.O.)

Yeah, I know -- he's an ELECTRIC blanket. And most people got rid of their electric blankets years ago. But not in this house. They loved him too much. And so do we!

As Toaster hugs him back, Kirby shouts from down below.

KIRBY

Get down from there, Blankie. You know that the kitchen counter is NO PLACE for blankets.

BLANKIE

What's that, Kirby? You need a hug too?

KIRBY

No, I was saying -- (MUFFLED SOUNDS)

Too late. Blankie leaps off the counter and onto Kirby's face area (at the base of the vacuum).

BLANKIE

Hug! Hug! Hug!

He wraps himself lovingly around Kirby's face area. KIRBY MUTTERS inside Blankie's embrace. The other appliances laugh.

BLINX

Way to spread the love, Blankie!

RADIO

And keep that old carpet-sniffer quiet for a change!

Kirby COUGHS and WIGGLES, kicking up dust from his suction area, as he tries to shake off Blankie's hug. Finally, Kirby swings his base around and flings Blankie off.

KIRBY

Enough already!

Blankie goes flying across the room...

BLANKIE

Weeeeee!

...and lands at the entrance to the kitchen, right by the feet of Young Rob, who is about to enter the room again.

Suddenly, all the appliances freeze in awkward positions. Lamp points oddly at the floor. Toaster is near the edge of the counter. And Kirby leans on one wheel, trying to keep himself from tipping over. The only sound comes from Radio, who plays a DRAMATIC MUSICAL STING, like the kind you'd hear during a cliffhanger in an old-time radio play. Young Rob stops and stares at the blanket by his feet.

YOUNG ROB

Blankie? How'd you get here?

The appliances exchange nervous glances, in their awkward positions. Did Rob see them move? Kirby struggles to stay balanced. Radio's music builds. Toaster whispers to Radio.

TOASTER

(whispered) Not helping, Radio.

RADIO

Sorry...

He switches tunes and plays a random song (Louis Jordan's "Nobody Here But Us Chickens"). The appliances wait anxiously, unsteadily. Kirby can barely stay balanced another second. Young Rob slowly, curiously, picks up Blankie. What will Young Rob do? A beat, then... he smiles.

YOUNG ROB

Well, you're just the Blankie I was looking for!

Young Rob lifts Blankie behind his shoulders like a superhero cape. He then runs around the room, making the "cape" fly...

YOUNG ROB (cont'd)

Woo-hoo! I'm Super-Blankie-Man!

Young Rob races around the kitchen and out of the room with his Blankie cape. Radio plays a triumphant SUPERHERO TUNE. The appliances let out a collective SIGH.

WATSON

Whew! Close one!

KIRBY

(sternly)

Too close. You know the rules.

(MORE)

KIRBY (cont'd) Never let The Masters see your special side. Now keep quiet.

Toaster nods.

TOASTER (V.O.)

And that's Kirby, the oldest appliance in the cabin. He's always going on and on about "The Rules" and "The Masters" -- the folks that live here.

INT. LIVING ROOM IN CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Young Rob runs around the adjacent room with his Blankie cape. Blankie smiles (behind Rob's back), and makes a "silent cheer." Young Rob's MOM is moving across the cabin, grabbing her pocketbook, as if ready to leave with her son.

TOASTER (V.O.)

We just call them our "friends." And we LOVE them! But we CAN'T actually talk to them. In fact, all they usually hear is this...

ON YOUNG ROB, as he stops for a moment. He hears a sound in the kitchen, coming from Toaster, but...

INT. KITCHEN IN CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

...It is not words. It is the bending/shrinking of Toaster's metal parts as he cools off (from making toast). The other appliances make their "natural" creaks and squeaks too. As Kirby CREAKS, we go CLOSE ON him and hear what he is saying.

KIRBY

Just stay still, Toaster, for once!

Toaster nods as he stiffens up.

TOASTER (V.O.)

Kirby thinks something REALLY bad'll happen if our human friends see us moving and playing around. But when they can't see us...?

INT. LIVING ROOM AREA - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Young Rob and Mom (with pocketbook) exit the cabin together, leaving Blankie behind. The door shuts behind them. With no human's around, the nightlights WINX and DINX jump off their wall outlets. They tumble and somersault like acrobats as they giddily head towards the kitchen.

TOASTER (V.O.)
...All we do is move and play!

Blankie clumsily rushes after them on his "blanket legs."

BLANKIE

Hey wait for me!

INT. KITCHEN IN CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Radio cranks up his tunes, as Blankie runs so fast into the room that he slides across the floor. Toaster lets down his electrical cord and swings Blankie up onto the counter.

Winx and Dinx bound across the floor and then climb up the cabinets "parkour-style" to meet up with Blinx. Then they all hop over to Watson who, as the larger fixture, is kind of like a big sister to them. She leans down so they can climb up her "neck." Then she whips her head up and launches them comically. They shout with GLEE as they tumble through the air. Blankie stretches out across the kitchen sink, creating a "trampoline" for the nightlights to bounce off... and into Toaster's slots. POP! Toaster sends the three flying back towards Watson. The nightlights laugh giddily as they fly.

BLINX, WINX, DINX Again! Again!

Meanwhile, the REFRIGERATOR HUMS along with Radio's music. An amused COFFEE MAKER does a laughing "spit-take" -- but she spews out coffee grounds. The grounds end up on the floor. The Coffee Maker looks embarrassed, but then she sees...

KIRBY rolling over, vacuuming up the grounds. He looks up at the Coffee Maker for a moment, very seriously.

KIRBY

The day really doesn't begin until I've had my morning coffee.

And then... He smiles. Radio notices...

RADIO

Wait... Did Kirby just make a joke?

Radio plays CANNED LAUGHTER while the other appliances laugh. Even Kirby cracks a smile. Toaster notices.

TOASTER (V.O.)

Ahh, now this is the life. The only thing better than having fun with each other, is "doing our thing" for Rob and his family. We ARE appliances after all.

(MORE)

TOASTER (V.O.) (cont'd) And we live to light... to clean... to play... to warm...

ANGLES ON: Watson and Nightlights ("to light"), Kirby ("to clean"), Radio ("to play"), and Blankie ("to warm").

TOASTER (V.O.) ...and most of all... To TOAST!

MONTAGE OF APPLIANCES BEING USED THROUGHOUT THE YEARS

- TOASTER (new day) merrily pops up toast for Young Rob. SMASH CUT TO: another day. Toaster pops up <u>waffles</u> for Young Rob. He smiles broadly. Then SMASH CUT TO: a third day. This time, Toaster is trying to "pop up" but he seems stuck. He winces and struggles until finally... GLOOOP! Up comes a whole grilled-cheese sandwich with melted cheese.

Toaster GASPS and CHOKES from the melted cheese. But Young Rob gives Toaster a grateful rub and smile -- Toaster completely forgets about gagging and just smiles broadly. He loves to make Rob happy.

Radio points his antenna at Toaster and SNICKERS at the mess. But then Toaster SNEEZES, and a huge "snot-like" lump of cheese goes flying upward (from his top) and hits Radio. All the other appliances LAUGH HYSTERICALLY.

- It is night time and Toaster is POPPING up two slices of Toast which are grabbed by Young Rob, and quickly covered in jam. He takes the bread over to a "tent fort" he has made by placing Blankie in between two chairs. Watson is providing the light inside the tent, as Rob eats his toast and acts like he is "camping." Radio plays a sweet COUNTRY SONG. Young Rob has a small telescope he uses to look at the "stars," but the only "stars" he sees are Blinx, Winx, and Dinx (plugged into outlets nearby). The appliances smile.
- Rob is now middle-school aged. He wears glasses and is using Watson to light up a book he is reading in the kitchen. Mom vacuums behind him with Kirby, who lets loose an ecstatic smile every so often (unseen by humans). Radio plays a tweenstyle POP SONG. Suddenly, Toaster POPS. Rob grabs two PopTart-like pastries and returns to studying. He wraps Blankie around him to keep warm.
- Rob is now high-school aged. He rushes out of the kitchen, barely shutting off the desk lamp. Blankie is left behind on a chair. Radio plays a RAP-STYLE song (and even makes Rapperstyle gestures when the humans aren't looking). Toaster POPS. But it seems like Rob is gone. Toaster looks around with concern -- has Rob outgrown them? Kirby, still by the counter, raises his cord to pat Toaster's back comfortingly.

But then... Rob rushes back in and grabs the toast. He smiles warmly at Toaster.

HIGH SCHOOL ROB Can't forget my toast!

He gives Toaster another smile, and then turns to leave. But not before noticing Kirby's cord on the counter (Kirby didn't have time to pull it away). Rob puts the cord away, and gives Kirby a warm smile too. As Rob leaves, Toaster exchanges a look with Kirby.

TOASTER (V.O.)

We thought we had a lifetime warranty on fun in the old cabin. We REALLY thought the good times would NEVER end.

END MONTAGE.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

It is the end of summer. High School Rob is in his car with his Mom. He waves out the window to the cabin.

HIGH SCHOOL ROB

See you next summer, cabin!

INT. KITCHEN IN CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

The appliances "wave" and shout (not seen or heard by Rob).

ALL APPLIANCES

See you next summer, Rob!

EXT. CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

The car driven by Mom pulls away, and heads towards the city. We stay on the cabin as we see a quick TIME LAPSE change of the scenery -- from autumnal colors to snow to Spring again.

INT. KITCHEN IN CABIN - DAY

Blankie is on the counter, looking out the window near Toaster, Watson, Kirby, and Radio.

BLANKIE

Are they here yet? Are they here yet? They should be here, right?

TOASTER

Don't worry, Blankie. They come every summer. Rob would never forget about us.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

Same shot of cabin. TIME LAPSE: summer ends. Leaves change. Snow falls. Flowers bloom again. From inside we hear...

BLANKIE

Where are they?

TIME LAPSE CONTINUES: summer, autumn, winter, spring. And then to summer again.

BLANKIE (cont'd)

Rob...? Anyone?

INT. CABIN - DAY

Three summers have passed, but the cabin still looks mostly clean. Kirby does his duty and vacuums the rug. Blinx, Dinx, and Winx still bounce around on the counter. But this time, when the Coffee Maker laughs at them, all that comes out is dust -- no coffee grounds. Kirby looks up hopefully. The Coffee Maker just shrugs. The Refrigerator HUMS SADLY.

Watson is still reading her catalogues hopefully. She stops at one page and turns it sideways, "holding" it up as if eyeing a centerfold. REVEAL: the centerfold is a "hunky" looking lamp. Watson smiles dreamily. But the catalogue she holds is so old and frayed, it just crumbles.

WATSON

No... NO! The light of my life!

The crumbled bits of paper fall to the floor. Kirby ZOOMS OVER to vacuum them up.

WATSON (cont'd)

Oh... What's the use, Kirby. They're never coming back.

ON BLANKIE at the window. He leaps in shock when he hears this (taking her words literally).

BLANKIE

What?! They're not?! No!!!

Toaster rushes over to Blankie, wrapping his cord around the blanket like a comforting arm.

TOASTER

Hey, hey, Blankie... It's okay.

BLANKIE

But I'll never hug ANYONE ever AGAIN!

TOASTER

Well, you can always hug me.

Toaster snuggles into Blankie's fuzzy body, forcing Blankie to wrap himself around him.

BLANKIE

(sniffling)

Thanks, but... It's not the same. Rob... He's nice and warm.

TOASTER

Uh... Hello? Me? Toaster? Ten different settings of "warm." Remember?

BLANKIE

But Rob's soft. And... You know...

TOASTER

I know. The chrome don't cuddle. But we'll be fine. Rob'll be back. I just know he will.

Radio interrupts his music to speak like a NEWS ANNOUNCER.

RADIO

(announcer-like)

This just in: Toaster knows nothing.

TOASTER

Hey!

RADIO

Three summers have come and gone without a single confirmed sighting of the elusive Rob and his family.

Blankie WEEPS. Kirby SCOWLS at Radio. Watson SHIVERS.

TOASTER

Stop it, Radio! You're making Blankie upset!

WATSON

Kinda making me upset too.

RADIO

Local pundits believe the cabin has been permanently abandoned!

KIRBY

Shush..

RADIO

(regular voice)

Don't "shush" me, Kirby! You know better than all of us what it's like to be forgotten.

KIRBY

I'm not talking about that. I hear SOMETHING outside.

Everyone stops. They all listen closely. Suddenly, they hear the sound of a car coming down the road.

BLANKIE

A car! He's back! He's back!

TOASTER

See? What'd I tell you?

Watson, Radio, Blankie and Toaster all rush to the window. Even Kirby lifts himself onto the counter to sneak a peek.

WATSON

Ooh! Fancy new vehicle.

RADIO

(like a car commercial)
A bold and luxurious sedan with a stylishly-sleek interior.

KIRBY

That doesn't sound like Rob.

All the appliances watch as a Cadillac-style sedan cruises right by the cabin. And heads for a cabin across the meadow.

WATSON

It's not. They're driving towards the North Meadow cabin.

BLANKIE

Ooh! He's stopped. And now he's planting something in the yard.

EXT. ACROSS THE MEADOW - DAY - CONTINUOUS

We see the local REALTOR, a pudgy, bald, and comical man, has parked his luxury sedan in front of a neighboring cabin. He is now clumsily hammering a "For Sale" sign into the ground.

WATSON (O.S.)

"For Sale?" What's that about?

Just then, we hear a large TRUCK RUMBLING down the road.

INT. KITCHEN IN CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

BLANKIE

Ooh! Another car! This one's big!

The appliances all get closer to the window to see... A GARBAGE TRUCK grinding past them ominously, with the words, "Reaper Bros Sanitation" written on the side. The Truck has a menacing, growling appearance. It carries a DUMPSTER that it brings towards the neighboring cabin. Kirby sees the vehicle and instantly knows what it means. He rushes over and blocks their view out the window with his larger body.

KIRBY

Look away, friends. There's nothing to see here.

BLANKIE

But I wanna see! Lemme see?

TOASTER

(nervously)

Kirby's right.

Toaster uses his cord to lasso the shade in front of the window and pull it down, blocking the view.

BLANKIE

But what is that? What's that truck carrying? I wanna know.

TOASTER

Nothing you need to worry about.

RADIO

(announcer-like)

Why it's a 4 X 4 frontloading dumpster, designed to handle all your disposal needs.

TOASTER

Radio!!! Stop that.

RADIO

(normal voice)

What...? He asked a question.

BLANKIE

Why would they need a "dumpster?"

Blankie moves to peak behind the window shade.

TOASTER

Blankie -- don't!!

Toaster tries to stop Blankie but he gets on the other side of the shade and looks out the window.

ON BLANKIE: his eyes widen in horror.

REVERSE ANGLE: we see what Blankie sees. The dumpster is now in front of the cabin, and the Realtor is directing two workmen who carry a variety of old appliances and furniture out to the dumpster. As Blankie sees an old blender and a crockpot tossed into the dumpster...

BLANKIE

АНННННННН!

ON BLANKIE as he is jerked away by Toaster.

TOASTER

I told you not to look. There's nothing you need to see out there.

RADIO

(melodramatically)
Only the silent screams of our
fallen brethren...

Radio begins to play a musical version of TAPS, as he lowers his antenna like a flagpole. Watson helps Toaster pull Blankie back -- but Watson can't help sneaking a peek as more appliances are thrown into the dumpster. Watson SHIVERS nervously. Blinx and the nightlights dim in respect. Blankie WEEPS. He looks up to Toaster.

BLANKIE

That's not going to happen to us, Toaster, is it? Tell me it won't!

TOASTER

That will NEVER happen to us, Blankie. I won't let it.

RADIO

I'm not taking any chances.
Fridgey? Open up?

The refrigerator makes an "okay" hum and opens its door.

RADIO (cont'd)

I hear you can survive a nuclear bomb in one of these guys, so I'm sure we'll be safe from some old dumpster.

Radio swings down from the top shelf on his electrical cord and leaps inside.

WATSON

Hey! Wait for me!

Watson also jumps inside, followed by Blankie and the nightlights. The coffee maker too. And every other small appliance (a fan, a clock, and an electric toothbrush).

BLANKIE

Me too!

TOASTER

Hey, guys! Guys! We can't all fit in there. What about Kirby?

Toaster turns to Kirby, who just frowns. Then...

KIRBY

You go. I'll be okay.

TOASTER

You sure?

Kirby just nods. Toaster leaps into the fridge with the others and the door shuts tight.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CABIN - NEXT DAY

Young Adult Rob (who we'll refer to simply as "ROB") is driving now as he pulls up in his battered sedan. His girlfriend LILY is in the passenger seat.

ROB

This is it, Lily. The family cabin.

LILY

Nice. What's it been... three years?

ROB

Yeah, I really miss the place. But between college and summer internships, and my Mom's new job, we haven't been able to visit. And...

Rob loses his chain of thought as he checks his ALLPHONE, a stylish smartphone that can do everything. A beat.

LILY

Hello? Rob...?

YOUNG ADULT ROB

Sorry. Just got a text from that local realtor.

LILY

You can put the phone down for a moment, you know?

ROE

He's been trying to get us to sell the cabin. Must've seen us coming from the Henderson's place.

Rob exits the car with Lily. He waves to the Realtor across the meadow (where he is supervising the cleanup at the other cabin). The Realtor waves back, smiling hopefully.

LILY

You're not gonna sell, are you?

ROB

Never. I love this place. When I'm done with college, I'm gonna figure out a way to move here full-time. I'd love it if you joined me.

Lily smiles and hugs him lovingly as they head for the front door. The PORCHLIGHT animates briefly and grins at them.

LILY

We'll see...

INT. LIVING ROOM IN CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Rob and Lily enter the cabin. They look around curiously.

ROB

Hey... where's all my stuff?

NEW ANGLE REVEALS: the dining area and the kitchen look surprisingly sparse. All the appliances are missing.

LILY

It does look a bit "empty." Think someone broke in?

ROB

And stole our old appliances? Who'd do something like that?

LILY

I dunno. Country kids, with nothing better to do, playing a prank?

INT. KITCHEN IN CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Rob heads curiously into the kitchen, followed by Lily.

ROB

Well, we <u>have</u> found our stuff in weird places before.

Rob looks around the kitchen and eyes... Kirby, "standing guard" by the fridge. Rob is puzzled. Just then, Rob hears a SPRING-POWERED "POPPING" sound.

ROB (cont'd)

Did you hear that? Inside the fridge. It sounds like...

Rob moves to the refrigerator and pulls open the door.

ROB (cont'd)

TOASTER!

Rob reaches in and grabs Toaster and lifts him excitedly.

ROB (cont'd)

I missed you little guy!

LILY

Wow. Never saw a guy get so excited about an appliance.

ROB

Oh, me and toaster, we go WAY back.

Toaster secretly smiles as Rob holds him.

ROB (cont'd)

No one makes better toast than him.

LILY

Ohkay... And I guess we found where the rest of your stuff is...

She nods towards the fridge, which is filled with (inanimate) appliances, piled comically on top of each other.

LILY (cont'd)

That's not TOO strange.

ROB

Like you said. Probably just some country kids playing a prank.

Rob places Toaster on the counter and plugs him in.

LILY

Rob, what're you doing?

ROB

Why... Making toast, of course.

LILY

But we have no bread?

ROB

There's a little town a few minutes away, with a bakery.

LILY

Are you serious?

ROB

You haven't lived `til you've tried their country bread, warmed to a golden crispness by Toaster here.

Rob also plugs his phone and charger into the counter outlet.

LILY

Wow! I don't think I've seen you leave without your phone EVER! You must REALLY like your toast.

Toaster discretely smiles when he hears this.

ROB

Oh, c'mon... I've left my phone... once or twice. When it had to charge, and I, uh, didn't have the car charger. Hey, maybe it has enough juice to last--

LILY

Leave it. I'll enjoy your undivided attention for once.

Lily smiles. Rob nods and smiles back as they head out.

Once they exit the cabin, the appliances come to life again, climbing awkwardly out of the fridge. Blankie jumps for joy.

BLANKIE

Rob's here! Rob's here! Rob's here!

KIRBY

(scolding)

Yeah, and he almost left without EVER finding any of you!!

RADIO

Whose bright idea was it to hide inside the Fridge anyway?

WATSON

Yours, you know-nothing noisebox! If Toaster hadn't "popped" for us... well... I don't know what we would've done.

TOASTER

Ah, it was nothing. Just glad to help. But did you see Rob? He's going to make TOAST! Woohooo!

All the other appliances CHEER. Even Kirby smiles. Radio plays an upbeat party tune. Blankie bounces excitedly.

BLANKIE

(dancing excitedly)
Rob's here! Rob's here!

ALLPHONE

(with a snort)

Yes. But not for long...

ALLPHONE comes to life with icy female eyes and femme fatale lips. She speaks with a world-weary (female) voice -- like a trust-fund hipster forced to acknowledge a boring co-worker.

Toaster shoots a curious look at the AllPhone.

TOASTER

Oh, hey... I don't think we've met. I'm Toaster.

ALLPHONE

Yes, I know. A GlowBeam 2-slice Automatic Toaster with chrome finish. Is this you?

AllPhone rises and turns towards Toaster, showing a picture of his exact same model on her smartphone screen.

TOASTER

(gasp)

No! But the resemblance is uncanny!

ALLPHONE

(with an impatient sigh)
Righhhht... Your model is selling
on eBay for 4.99.

The other appliances hop and climb onto the counter.

BLANKIE

(excited)

Four whole dollars and 99 cents?! Wow! You're, like a millionaire, Toaster!

ALLPHONE

Oh, please, I spend that much every day in data charges just downloading funny videos of cats.

AllPhone starts playing ridiculous youtube-style videos of cats comically falling and getting caught in things. The appliances are in awe -- OOHING and AHHHing.

BLINX

Whoaaa... You're like a little TV-cat-playing super girl!

ALLPHONE

Oh, I'm a LOT more than that, honey. I'm ALLPHONE, the latest model smartphone, computer-enabled and internet connected, with more than 600 million apps that control every aspect of Rob's life.

AllPhone runs through a "fashion show" of apps -- Phone, camera, flashlight, GPS, computer, radio, etc.

RADIO

(smitten)

I have NO IDEA what you just said but I LOVE it!

ALLPHONE (cont'd)

In fact, the only thing I can't seem to control...

(wincing)

...is you guys. Is there absolutely no Wi-Fi here?

WATSON

What's a "Wi-Fi?"

ALLPHONE

Ugh! I knew we were going to the country, but I didn't know we'd be visiting the Appliance Stone Ages.

When Kirby hears this, he rolls over intensely.

KIRBY

Hey, have some respect. This is OUR home.

Radio slides over, trying to "buddy up" to AllPhone.

RADIO

Yes, and we'd like to welcome you to our humble home... Especially if you can look me up on that screen of yours. Betcha folks'll pay a pretty penny for a vintage model like me.

ALLPHONE

A "penny" sounds about right.

RADIO

No really. I dialed in the Antiques Talk Show once and they couldn't stop yammering about how valuable classic radios like me are.

WATSON

Can you check on desk lamps too? I'm looking for a male model.

ALLPHONE

Aren't we all?

WATSON

This one's strong and stylish, at least 60 watts, with an incandescent smile, who loves to stay inside and shine, shine, SHINE!

ALLPHONE

Good luck finding the lamp of your dreams with that old bulb.

WATSON

Huh? What's wrong with my bulb?

ALLPHONE

Uh... hello? Haven't you ever heard of C-F-L?

AllPhone changes the image on her phone to show a spiralling Compact Fluorescent (CFL) bulb.

ALLPHONE (cont'd)

Lasts longer, saves energy and doesn't look so, y'know... 1987.

WATSON

Say... What's wrong with 1987?

TOASTER

It was a GREAT year, Watson. And this is going to be a GREAT year too, now that ROB is here to make some TOAST.

ALLPHONE

Oh, puh-lease... You're just an excuse so he could run off to the bakery and let me charge. Then I'm taking him outta here.

TOASTER

You? But how?

ALLPHONE

Uh, hellooo? Did you not hear: I'm ALLPhone! I do it ALL for Rob. I keep his schedule, his correspondence, his finances, and I'm connected to all the "smart appliances" in his home. I even manages his home security system.

The nightlights bounce over.

BLINX

We're pretty good at home security ourselves. Wanna see?

Winx and Dinx FLASH, like a police siren as Blinx makes a robot-like voice.

BLINX (cont'd)

(robot alert)

Intruder alert! Intruder alert!

The nightlights then LAUGH (they really crack themselves up).

ALLPHONE

Ugh. That's just sad. Do you guys even have "on and off" switches?

BLINX

(giddily)

Nope!

BLANKIE

(interrupting)

When's Rob coming back! (MORE)

BLANKIE (cont'd)

When's Rob coming back! I can't wait to wrap myself around him!

ALLPHONE

And give him cancer!

TOASTER/WATSON/KIRBY

(angry; protective)

Hey! That's enough.

ALLPHONE

What...? He doesn't know the dangers of the Electromagnet Fields produced by Electric Blankets? Here: I'll show you...

Blankie looks on in shock as AllPhone changes screen images.

TOASTER

Stop it, AllPhone!

Toaster swings his body and WHACKS AllPhone, sending him sliding across the countertop.

ALLPHONE

Ahhhh!

AllPhone almost slides off the counter. But she's stopped at the last moment by Radio, who catches her with his antenna.

RADIO

I gotcha, Sweetie-Screen.

(suavely)

This baby extends, by the way.

He extends his antenna, trying to impress her.

ALLPHONE

(furiously)

What're you doing?! Do you know how fragile my SmartGlass is? Ech! You guys are finished.

WATSON

Huh?

ALLPHONE

You're Dead Gizmos Walking. You won't last the week.

TOASTER

What're you talking about?

ALLPHONE

See that cabin across the way? With the realtor and the dumpster?

All the APPLIANCES SHIVER when they hear the word "dumpster."

ALLPHONE (cont'd)

Look who just sent Rob a text.

She flashes the text messaging app. The realtor's face appears next to the text he sent.

ALLPHONE (cont'd)

Rob's selling this place.

TOASTER/WATSON/KIRBY/RADIO/BLANKIE

What?!?

ALLPHONE

Why else would he be getting messages from a Realtor? That's why he's here: To clear the place out. It's just a matter of time. You're all getting DUMPSTERED!

TOASTER/WATSON/KIRBY/RADIO

No!!!!

KIRBY

I've had just about enough of you.

Kirby has climbed up on the counter and turned himself on. He aims his powerful vacuum suction at AllPhone.

KIRBY

This might SUCK a bit.

ALLPHONE

Whooaaaaaa!

Kirby's SUCTION is surprisingly strong. AllPhone tries to get away, but Kirby's vacuum power keeps pulling her towards him. She slides across the counter and is within inches of being swallowed into his vacuum when...

BLINX

Incoming!

The other appliances instantly understand what this means -- humans approaching. Kirby turns himself off and leaps off the counter. All the other appliances leap back into position, leaving the AllPhone on the edge of the counter.

As Rob and Lily enter... they see the appliances are all in different places.

LILY

Weren't they just in the `fridge? And did you leave your phone there?

Rob suddenly panics and rushes over to AllPhone!

ROB

Whoa!! She almost fell and cracked!

LILY

She...?

ROB

Yeah, well... you know...the voice.

AllPhone suddenly plays a "Siri"-style voice (different than her voice when talking to the appliances).

ALLPHONE ("SIRI")

Hello, Rob.

All the other appliances are shocked when they see this.

WATSON

(low muttering)

She can talk to him?!

TOASTER

I thought that wasn't possible!

Toaster shoots a look at Kirby, who shrugs and CREAKS (which is what Rob hears). AllPhone smiles confidently. Then...

ALLPHONE ("SIRI")

I have an urgent message for you.

The phone starts BEEPING and FLASHING an alert.

ROB

Oh no... My home! Trouble.

LILY

What? What're you talking about?

ROB

AllPhone's tied into our home security system. There's some kind of emergency at our apartment. We've got to get back there. NOW!

LILY

Okay.

(with sarcastic edge)
If AllPhone says so...

Rob rushes to the exit, following by Lily. AllPhone GLARES at the other appliances, then she FLASHES them a picture of a DUMPSTER. She CHUCKLES silently.

Rob and Lily exit. The APPLIANCES exchange nervous looks. Everyone is too stunned to speak. Except for Toaster.

TOASTER

Oh, c'mon... What can some dumb "smartphone" do anyway?

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. CABIN - THE NEXT DAY

A HAMMER is coming down clumsily on the top of a stake... which is attached to a "For Sale" sign. WIDEN TO REVEAL: the Realtor is banging the new sign into the ground in front of Rob's cabin. In the background, we can see Toaster, Watson, Blankie, Radio, and Kirby staring out the window in shock. The Realtor speaks into his Bluetooth headset as he pounds.

REALTOR

...yeah, the owner of this old place texted me last night. Wants the place sold pronto. So can you bring the truck around? Right now? Sure! There's a lot of old junk... Bring the big dumpster.

STACCATO ZOOM onto Toaster and the other appliances in the window, shocked as the words echo.

REALTOR (cont'd)

Dumpster... Dumpster... Dumpster...

INT. KITCHEN IN CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Toaster turns to the other appliances.

TOASTER

She actually did it. That...
 (like it's a curse)
"Allphone."

WATSON

Are you sure? Maybe Rob --

TOASTER

Never. He wouldn't do that to us. He was trying to make toast!

Blinx bounds over.

BLINX

I agree. Porchlight heard him say
he wants to move here full-time!
 (shouting towards door)
Ain't that right, Porchlight?

Through the window near the door, we see the Porchlight FLICKER on and off, as if saying "yes" (unseen by Realtor).

RADIO

Back in the fridge, I say. Just to be safe.

TOASTER

Not this time. We can't just hide. We've gotta stop this. We've gotta let Rob know what's happening!

Toaster swings off the counter by his cord and heads to...

INT. LIVING ROOM IN CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

...the back door (which is off to the side of the cabin, and not visible from the front door). Kirby and Watson follow.

KIRBY

What?! We can't! There are rules!

TOASTER

Yeah, and AllPhone broke those rules. We can break a few too.

Toaster grabs the back door knob with his cord and whips it open heroically. Kirby GASPS. But not Watson.

WATSON

I'm with Toaster, Kirby. There's a time to follow rules. And a time to follow our hearts -- our big, yearning, love-starved hearts.

Blinx, Winx, and Dinx exchange puzzled looks.

BLINX

(muttering)

Someone REALLY needs a boyfriend.

Winx and Dinx nod. Kirby grumbles.

KIRBY

But how're you gonna get to Rob -- he was heading back to city!

TOASTER

Watson, get us some wheels.

WATSON

Already on it. Literallyyyyyyy!

Watson rolls by on a skateboard, but loses her balance. She tumbles off, and sends the skateboard flying... Right out the (now open) back door. The skateboard flies off the steps and down a hill behind the house... Rolling way out of reach. Kirby shakes his head and sighs as Watson's BULB FLICKERS.

KIRBY

(sarcastically)

Any other "bright" ideas?

Blinx starts urgently pointing out a cabin window.

BLINX

Better hurry up... Because one of those big beasts is coming... and it's carrying a you-know-what!

THROUGH THE WINDOW: we can see THE "REAPER BROS" GARBAGE TRUCK approaching with its dumpster.

ON TOASTER as he wheels over a mop bucket and climbs in it.

TOASTER

Got wheels! It's the bucket -- or the dumpster! Who's with me?

Radio struts proudly over towards them.

RADIO

I just realized: no one's dumping a "priceless antique" like me! Any sane, clean-out-the-cabin fella will instantly recognize my resale value on the collector's market.

BLANKIE

But what about the rest of us?

RADIO

Oh... they'll toss you for sure.

BLANKIE

What!?! AHHHHHHH!

Watson and Blankie leap into the bucket with Toaster. Toaster looks towards the other appliances in the room.

BLINX

You guys go find Rob. Me and the rest of the gang will keep the place safe until you get back.

Toaster nods and gives himself a push off the wall, propelling the bucket towards the door. They only get a few feet before a wheel POPS off. The three of them tumble out. Radio CHUCKLES snidely.

RADIO

Well, I guess you can cross that off your "Bucket List."

Blinx shouts from one of the windows.

BLINX

Truck's here! And it's parking!!!

TOASTER

We've gotta hurry. Kirby... You have wheels. You can carry us.

KIRBY

What? Me? I'm not goin' anywhere.

TOASTER

But you're our only hope!

KIRBY

Oh, c'mon... Don't put this all on me. Besides, I can't pull you without power. How do we plug in once we leave here?

THUMP. Watson dumps a pile of extension cords by him.

WATSON

Really long extension cords.

EXT. FRONT OF CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

We can see the Realtor directing the sanitation truck to lower its dumpster near the front door.

INT. CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Toaster looks urgently to Kirby, as he considers the extension cords being connected by Watson.

KIRBY

This is the WORST idea ever...

TOASTER

No, this is what we do if we ever want to clean or light or warm or toast ever again. This is what we do if we want to be appliances; instead of "junk" in a dumpster.

BLINX

(shouting urgently)
They're coming up the porch!

EXT. FRONT OF CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

The Realtor is reaching under the mat, looking for the key.

REALTOR

Now where did he say that key was?

INT. LIVING ROOM IN CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Toaster hears the Realtor fumbling with the lock. The other appliances run back into their "positions" in the living room and kitchen (except for Toaster, Watson, Blankie, and Kirby).

TOASTER

You've always been there for us, Kirby. But if you can't now, well... I understand. We'll do this on our own. C'mon...

Toaster gestures to Watson and Blankie, as they begin walking towards the open back door. Kirby frowns and then...

KIRBY

(a curse; fumbling)
Oh, dust bunnies! You've really
put me in the deep shag here.

Kirby looks towards the front door -- it sounds like the lock is almost open. Then he looks towards Toaster leading Watson and Blankie "on foot" out the back door.

KIRBY

(grumbling)

Ugh... I'll give you this: you're a Brave Little Toaster. But you're also one Darn Big Fool! Now hop on.

BLANKIE

What?!? For real?

The front door lock is opening.

KIRBY

C'mon... There's no time!

Toaster smiles. Watson cheers. Kirby plugs in.

WATSON

Yes! A clean break... with the cleaner!

Toaster, Watson and Blankie jump on Kirby. The vacuum cleaner carries them as he races towards the back door just as...

ANGLE ON FRONTDOOR: it opens. The Realtor is in the doorway, casting a menacing shadow.

REALTOR

Hello! Anybody home?

REVERSE ANGLE: Toaster, Watson, Kirby, and Blankie are gone. However, there is a long extension cord plugged into the wall, leading around a corner and out the (open) rear door.

EXT. REAR OF CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Toaster, Blankie, and Watson are on Kirby as he RUMBLES off the back steps, steering heroically onto the back lawn.

TOASTER

(triumphantly)

Freedom!!!!

(but then)

GUHH!!

Suddenly, the extension cords have reached their limit. They grow taut and jerk Kirby backwards, causing them all to fall onto their backs on the lawn behind the cabin.

INT. LIVING ROOM IN CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

As the Realtor enters, he places the cabin key on a table by the door. He looks around with the Garbage Truck DRIVER. The remaining appliances are back in their "normal" positions.

REALTOR

We're gonna clear it all out, like the owner asked.

DRIVER

There anything of value in here?

The Realtor looks around. Radio stands up proudly on the upper shelf, music BLARING, antenna saluting. The Realtor eyes Radio for a thoughtful moment. Then...

REALTOR

Nahhh... It's all junk. Put it in the dumpster.

The Driver nods and exits, followed by the Realtor.

RADIO

(muttering to himself)
What?!?! That can't be?! Don't
they know I'm "vintage?"
 (a panicked beat)
Time I Hit the Road Jack too!

Radio hooks his cord on his shelf and swing out an open window, Errol Flynn-style (Radio can be quite dextrous when he wants to be).

RADIO

(as he "flies" out)
Tally-ho... NOOOO!!!

THE REALTOR doesn't notice, since he is too focused on the extension cord stretching around a corner to the rear door.

REALTOR

Where's that extension cord go?

As the Realtor heads towards the back door...

EXT. REAR OF CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Toaster is on his back next to Watson, who stares longingly up at the sky.

WATSON

The Great Big Lamp in the Sky. It's so bright... And beautiful.

TOASTER

C'mon, we've gotta keep moving.

KIRBY

Where to? We've run out of cord.

Kirby nods at the extension cord that barely reached into the yard. The cord moves as the Realtor pulls on it. They can see him coming. And then they hear...

RADIO

This way! Follow me!

Radio suddenly runs from the side of the cabin (where he landed). He heads for a <u>detached garage</u> in the yard.

TOASTER

Radio? I thought you were a safe
and sound "classic?"

RADIO

Some folks just don't understand "antiques!" Into the garage!

INT./EXT. REAR OF CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

The Realtor steps out the cabin's rear door, holding the extension cord. He looks around to see... AN EMPTY YARD. No sign of any appliances... Just a skateboard down the hill in the distance. The Realtor SHRUGS and heads back inside.

CAMERA MOVES across the yard towards the old Garage

INT. DETACHED GARAGE BUILDING - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Toaster, Watson, Blankie, and Kirby are huddling just on the other side of the garage door, staring at Radio.

KIRBY

Great. Now what? I can't carry ALL of you -- especially since our A.C. got KO'd.

RADIO

Never fear, Kirby my dear! There's an old wagon and car battery in here.

TOASTER

But how'd you...?

RADIO

The kid used to take me in here when he needed to fix something. He liked his music while he worked.

As they move across the garage, they suddenly come face-to-face with a cobwebbed-covered, gas powered LAWNMOWER (with a face, like the other appliance). It GROWLS angrily at them and lifts its front part to expose its scary cutting blades. Radio suddenly leaps back, as he sees the menacing mower

RADIO (cont'd)

Wahhhhhh!

Blankie, Watson, and Radio hide behind Toaster. They shiver in fright as the Mower lifts its fang-like blades.

It starts to move towards them but... KIRBY rolls in front of it, GROWLING back. It's like two alpha dogs facing off. Kirby is clearly out-matched. The lawn mower LUNGES. But... It only gets an inch. The mower has no wheels. It WHIMPERS, and pulls itself back into the shadows, next to its gas can.

RADIO

Luckily... Rob never got around to fixing that guy.

Kirby EXHALES in relief, along with the others.

BLANKIE

(shivering)

What... What's wrong with him? And why's he smell funny?

KIRBY

He's a Burner. Lives off foul fuel instead of sweet electricity, like us Chargers. Burners and Chargers have NEVER gotten along.

Suddenly, Radio pulls a sheet off some old gear.

RADIO

Talk about charging... Ta-da!

REVEAL: an old car battery. Watson rushes over and positions her wires on the battery's terminals. They make a spark.

RADIO

And here's our ride.

Radio points to the old fashioned, little red wagon. As Kirby and the others eye it curiously...

INT. CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

The Realtor is still looking around curiously. As he crosses the room, BLINX and the nightlights watch him mischievously. Blinx gestures to a WALL SWITCH by the front door. The SWITCHPLATE comes to "life" and pops off the wall. It drops down on its electrical wire and scoops up the cabin keys sitting on the table below it. It then carries the keys into its electrical box inside the wall. It returns to its normal position -- with the keys hidden behind its switch plate.

The REALTOR heads back towards the front entrance, and notices... something is different on the table.

REALTOR

Now where'd I put those keys?

He exits the cabin to the front porch.

Blinx and the nightlights quickly SLAM the door shut behind --scrambling up to close the deadbolt. They then race to the back of the cabin to close the rear door too.

EXT. FRONT OF CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

The Realtor tries to open the door again but... it's locked.

REALTOR

Oh no... Don't tell me I just locked myself out...

The Garbage Truck Driver impatiently taps his foot nearby.

REALTOR (CONT'D)

I'll call the locksmith. But you can always start by clearing out that old garage in back.

The Driver nods and heads for the garage.

EXT. DETACHED GARAGE BUILDING - DAY - CONTINUOUS

The CAMERA FOLLOWS the Driver as he approaches the garage entrance. We can hear SHUFFLING inside the structure. The Driver quickens his pace, and FLINGS open the door. But...

INT. DETACHED GARAGE BUILDING - DAY - CONTINUOUS

The only one inside here is the old lawnmower. It sees the Driver and it WHIMPERS warily (all the Driver hears is its metal parts CREAKING slightly). A rear door of the garage is open, swinging in the wind. Meanwhile...

EXT. BEHIND THE GARAGE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

KIRBY is pulling the red wagon away from the garage. <u>Inside</u> the wagon are the car battery (that he is plugged into), along with Toaster, Watson, Radio, and Blankie. They head into some woods on the edge of the property and vanish into the trees before anyone sees them. (NOTE: I changed the "vehicle" from the original office chair into a wagon because wagons travel off-road better and... well... It's cuter.)

EXT. WOODS - DAY - CONTINUOUS

As they roll along a (relatively smooth) path.

TOASTER

Yes! We're doing it, Kirby!

BLANKIE

(sing songy)

Go, Kirby! Go, Kirby! Go, Kirby!

WATSON

Roadtrip! Wooohoooo!

Radio plays an "On the Road"-style song.

KIRBY

Worst idea ever ...

EXT. DIFFERENT PART OF WOODS - DAY - A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Kirby HARUMPHS as he pulls the appliance-filled wagon.

BLANKIE

Are we there yet?

TOASTER

No, Blankie. Still a ways to go.

Suddenly, Kirby stops at a fork in the path.

BLANKIE

(excited)

NOW are we there?

Kirby shakes his head "no." Then...

KIRBY

Which way?

Toaster, Watson, and Blankie exchange nervous looks. But Radio just speaks up proudly.

RADIO

Well, that's EASY, ya wacky vac. Rob lives in the Big City and ALL my radio stations come from there. I've just got to find where the signal is strongest...

Radio adjusts his knob and moves his antenna until... his music (the "On the road"-style song) is extra loud.

RADIO (cont'd)

(shouting over music)

THAT WAY!

He points his antenna like a beagle. The others are impressed. Kirby nods.

KIRBY

So the blabber-box is good for something after all.

RADIO

Make that VINTAGE Blabber Box. You'll see. As soon as we get to the city, collectors'll be lining up to spend their cold-hard, cashmoney on a classic like me!

TOASTER

(politely)

I'm sure they will, Radio. I'm sure they will...

As Radio's music plays...

SONG: "OVER THE COUNTER AND INTO THE WOODS"

The gang sings an upbeat song about leaving their old home behind for new adventures in a world they've never experienced before. They reveal that most of them have barely been out of the kitchen, let alone the cabin. The Great Outdoors is vast and bewildering, but in many ways, it's just a "bigger" version of the world in the cabin. Out here, all their normal "functions" will serve them well.

Kirby will pull them, Radio will guide them, Blankie will warm them, and Watson will light the way. As for Toaster? He'll inspire them. It's NOT just about saving themselves, and getting back to Rob. This journey is about doing what they do best -- cleaning, lighting, warming, playing... Even making toast (eventually). It's a journey of discovery; a journey of destiny. As Toaster explains/sings: "It's a journey for Rob! For the cabin. For Toast!!!" END SONG.

EXT. ROADSIDE - DAY - LATER

The appliances have made it out of the woods and are marching alongside a two-lane country road. Kirby's bag has become full of dirt and debris from all his inadvertent "vacuuming." As he moves, he COUGHS up a lump of grass.

RADIO

Better lay off the grass, old timer. Heard it's a lot stronger than it was in your day.

KIRBY

(coughing)

Ack! Cackh! I'm so full of sticks and thistles, and who-knows-what.

(MORE)

KIRBY (cont'd)

I'm just not made for this kind of
"carpeting."

TOASTER

Did you try your "Shag" setting?

KIRBY

Been on it since we left. And I'm about to burst. So... if you'll excuse me.

Kirby disconnects himself from the wagon, and goes behind a tree (as if urinating). He then opens his bag and dumps out all the debris he has picked up along the way.

KIRBY (cont'd)

(sighing in relief)

A moment later, he returns, with an empty bag.

KIRBY (cont'd)

Ahhh... That's better. Wait... (seeing something)
Someone's coming! Hide!

Kirby pulls the group behind the tree where he "unbagged."

RADIO

Wait... didn't you just make a dump back here?

KIRBY

Just be quiet, radio.

RADIO

I'm just saying, "Ewwww?"

Suddenly... they see the truck... It's the Reaper Bros Sanitation truck (carrying its dumpster), returning home. It passes them slowly and menacingly. Its face SNARLS towards them as it passes. It casts a long, scary shadow over them. The truck is ominous, like a Grim Reaper on wheels.

The appliances SHUDDER and pull back until the truck is gone.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. THE BIG CITY - NIGHT

Establishing shot of a typical, North American city.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

A mid-sized apartment building, with Rob's old car parked out front. We PUSH IN on one of the upper story windows.

ROB (O.S.)

I can't quite figure out what the "emergency was.

INT. ROB'S APARTMENT - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Rob is checking a small control panel on the wall.

LILY

So we raced all the way back here for nothing?

ROB

Well, my mom's out of town, and I promised to keep my eye on the place until I got back to college.

LILY

And by "keeping your eye on the place" you actually mean: "have AllPhone watch everything."

ROB

Well, yeah! This is a "Smart Home." Nearly everything in here is connected to the internet and accessible via AllPhone. I can control the lights, the TV, the heat, most of the appliances, and even the security system.

Rob demonstrates by pressing buttons on AllPhone's screen to turn on and off the lights, the TV, the heating system, a kitchen blender, the refrigerator's ice maker, and the alarm system -- which flashes an "OK" symbol on its wall panel.

LILY

Do you control it? Or does it control you?

ROB

Oh, c'mon. AllPhone has never failed me before.

LILY

Uh... Rob? The ice-maker?

Lily points towards the refrigerator's ice maker, which is pouring ice cubes onto the floor.

ROB

No, problem. AllPhone can handle that too.

Rob pushes another button and a "ROOMBA"-style, automated vacuum cleaner rolls over and sucks up the cubes. Lily frowns -- she is not as impressed with AllPhone as Rob.

ON ROOMBA: as the "muscular," high-tech vacuum moves powerfully along...

MATCH CUT TO:

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - NIGHT

KIRBY, the old-looking vacuum, struggling to move on a bumpy dirt path. He pulls the red wagon full of appliances (and battery). Watson has also plugged into the battery, as she shines like a headlight. Moths and other bugs keep flying into her bulb, TINKING against it. Every time one hits...

WATSON

Ow! Quit it. Ow! Watch where
you're flying. Ow! Ow! Ow!
 (to the bugs)
How do you insects know I'm not a
bug zapper? Like this...

A bug lands on Watson's bulb. She stares "cross eyed" at it.

WATSON (cont'd)

(making bug zapper sound)

Zzzzzap!

(gets no response)

Not scared yet? How about this...

(louder zapper sound)

ZZZZZAPPP!

The bug does not move. Watson SIGHS. More bugs fly onto her bulb, drawn to its light. ON TOASTER: he looks around.

TOASTER

We should probably stop soon.

WATSON

Ya think?

ANGLE ON: Watson, her bulb is now comically smothered by bugs and moths, all looking at her like she is their mother.

EXT. FOREST CLEARING - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Kirby rolls them into a small clearing in the woods and then... just GROANS and keels over in exhaustion.

Great choice, Kirby! This looks like an excellent place to camp.

KIRBY

I'm not camping. I'm COLLAPSING.

Kirby then COUGHS UP a lump of dirt and debris. Toaster attempts to help him empty his overstuffed bag. He resists.

KIRBY (cont'd)

Hey! I can do that MYSELF.

Kirby then pulls open the bag, releasing a HUGE PILE OF DEBRIS, just as Radio is climbing down off the wagon. The debris dumps onto Radio's face.

RADIO

Eck! Again!? Do the words "Mint Condition" mean nothing to you?

Kirby just GROANS as he zips up his empty bag. Blankie hops over and begins wiping dirt from Kirby's chrome.

BLANKIE

Good as new.

KIRBY

Ain't nothing good NOR new about me. Not anymore.

Kirby slides away from them. Blankie watches with concern.

BLANKIE

Is Kirby okay?

TOASTER

Yeah, he's fine. He just needs some rest. We all do.

WATSON

(shivers; panic building)
You want us to sleep out here in
the <u>dark</u>? In the middle of
NOWHERE? All <u>ALONE</u>?

TOASTER

Hey, we've got each other. Just lay down, and think happy thoughts.

Watson reluctantly lays her head down on a rock pillow.

WATSON

What kind of happy thoughts?

You know, like... about those lamps in those catalogs you read.

WATSON

Which lamp? Maybe that muscular desk lamp, with the brushed-steel limbs and the gorgeous rotating head, and that 60 watt smile and--

Watson just passes out SNORING, with a big grin on her face. Toaster smiles, proud of his efforts to calm Watson. Blankie cuddles up alongside Toaster. Radio slinks <u>under</u> the wagon.

RADIO

And your noble navigator shall be just fine over here, thank you very much. Protected by our trusty travel wagon from all natural threats to himself AND his resale value. And now... a sweet lullaby.

Radio starts playing an upbeat, raucous version of "WE'RE IN THE MONEY." Toaster shouts over.

TOASTER

That's a "lullaby?"

RADIO

Oh, sorry...

Radio changes the channel to: a sweet, soft, instrumental LULLABY VERSION OF THE SAME EXACT SONG ("We're in the Money"). Radio falls asleep smiling. Toaster SIGHS.

As the others doze off, Toaster keeps one eye open, looking at the moon. A sleepy-eyed Blankie murmurs.

BLANKIE

(apprehensive)

Toaster, can I ask you something?

TOASTER

Sure.

BLANKIE

It's been so long since I got to REALLY snuggle with Rob. He's all grown up now and I guess, well... I'm just worried that... I'll never get to hug anyone ever again.

I'm sure there's someone out there right now, feeling chilly, who really needs a blanket like you.

BLANKIE

You think?

TOASTER

Yeah, and until we find that person, I have just one word for you: Hug.

BLANKIE

Hug! Hug! Hug!

As the two snuggle...

PULL BACK AND UP TO REVEAL:

Their campsite is only a short distance away from the cabin, which is just on the other side of the trees. They still have a very, VERY long way to go.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CABIN - MORNING

Dawn. The Realtor is already there with a LOCKSMITH. As the locksmith opens the door, he hands the Realtor a new key.

LOCKSMITH

Just don't lose this one.

REALTOR

Not a problem. This place should be all cleaned out by the end of the day anyway... Just in time for the truck to get back here.

INT. LIVING ROOM IN CABIN - MORNING - CONTINUOUS

The Realtor enters the cabin and looks around. Blinx and the nightlights watch him warily. As soon as he turns his back, they race off towards the kitchen.

The Realtor spins around, having heard the sound. He looks around, but doesn't see anything.

REALTOR

Better pick up some mouse traps.

He hears another sound in the kitchen and heads towards it.

INT. KITCHEN IN CABIN - MORNING - CONTINUOUS

The Nightlights have climbed onto the counter and are looking down into the sink's garbage DISPOSAL - which has a face like all the other appliances in the cabin.

BLINX

Here he comes. You know what to do.

The Disposal face nods and winks. Blinx and the nightlights leap onto the nearby outlets just as the realtor enters. He looks around, and sees Blinx, Dinx, and Winx plugged (quietly) into the wall near the counter.

REALTOR

Wow... These folks really like their nightlights.

Just then... GURGLE. A sound comes from the trash disposal.

REALTOR (cont'd)

Huh...?

The disposal makes ANOTHER GURGLE. The Realtor approaches curiously. He hears a third sound from inside the disposal. He leans in close to the sink, trying to peer into the depths of the disposal. He leans closer and closer... then....

SPLOOSH! A GUSHER of SINK goop is projected out of the disposal. It comically hits the Realtor in the face.

REALTOR (cont'd)

Ahhhhh!

The face returns in the garbage disposal -- it CHUCKLES.

The Realtor clutches his goop-covered face and stumbles backwards. With his free hand, he reaches for a dishtowel hanging over the sink. But Blinx grabs the dishtowel and Coffee Maker moves into its place instead. As the Realtor gropes for the towel, his hand ends up beneath the coffee maker's drip spout -- it pours scalding water on his hand.

REALTOR (cont'd)

Yeeeeowwwww!

The Realtor whips his hand to his mouth to cool it off. But as he does, the sink goop on his face drips onto his lips.

REALTOR (cont'd)

Yeachhh!! Ptoo! Ptoo!

He spits the goop from his lips. He backs up blindly. Dinx swings down and opens one of the cabinet doors, right in his path. The Realtor trips over the door and tumbles to floor.

REALTOR (cont'd)

Wahhhhhh!

He lands by the refrigerator. He looks up to see Fridgey HUMMING strangely and tilting forward, about to fall on top of him. His eyes widen. He rolls aside at the last moment. The refrigerator THUMPS down.

EXT. FRONT OF CABIN - MORNING - CONTINUOUS

The Realtor bursts out of the front door, clutching his burnt hand, and with sink goop all over his face.

REALTOR

Ah! That cabin's tryin' to kill me!

The Locksmith is still outside packing up his truck. He eyes the crazed Realtor and just shakes his head.

LOCKSMITH

Whatever. Just don't lose that key again.

INT. KITCHEN IN CABIN - MORNING - CONTINUOUS

Blinx is on the floor, picking up a shiny metal object.

BLINX

Does he mean this key?

Blinx holds up the key and CHUCKLES merrily.

WIPE TO:

EXT. CLEARING - MORNING

Toaster is sleeping peacefully with Blankie wrapped around him. The morning sun is shining warmly on them. Birds are chirping. All is well with the world.

Suddenly... Blankie starts to slip away. Toaster, still half asleep, pulls Blankie back. But then Blankie slips away again -- it's like someone is trying to pull off his covers. Toaster pulls back again, but now Blankie is pulled harder.

TOASTER

Blankie?

Toaster opens his eyes to see... a group of mice grabbing Blankie, and trying to drag him off. However, when Blankie opens his eyes, he is happy to see the little creatures.

BLANKIE

Well, hello, there little fellows. Do you need a hug?

The mice SQUEAK and SNIFF the air. Suddenly, we hear KIRBY'S VACUUM CLEANER MOTOR. The mice look over. From the MICE POV, Kirby is a towering Machine of Doom, making a deafening sound as it sucks up everything around it. He looks almost comically destructive from their POV. ON MICE: they SHRIEK and scramble frantically. ON BLANKIE, looking hurt.

BLANKIE (cont'd)

Kirby, why'd you chase away my new friends?

KIRBY

Pests. They'll eat you alive.

Radio climbs out from underneath the wagon, stretching his antenna like it's an arm. Watson is also getting up and doing her morning stretches.

WATSON

He's right you know. I once saw the Masters bring down some old bedsheets from the attic. The mice got to them. Not a pretty sight.

RADIO

(dramatically)

Oh, the horror! They went up as queen-sized Egyptian Cotton... but came down like shredded strips torn from a mummy's corpse!

BLANKIE

(terrified)

АНННННННН!

Toaster quickly hugs Blankie and calms him.

TOASTER

No, no, no... It wasn't that bad.

KIRBY

And that WON'T happen here... (threatening to Radio) RIGHT RADIO?

Radio SHIVERS slightly, wary of the much larger Kirby.

RADIO

No, of course, not. The Great Outdoors are nowhere NEAR as dangerous for us appliances as I thought they'd be. I mean, all we REALLY have to do to stay safe is avoid rodents that will eat us, and stay dry so we don't rust, right?

CUT TO:

EXT. PATH UP MOUNTAIN - DAY - LATER

LIGHTNING AND THUNDER CRASH in the sky. PAN DOWN to our heroes on a winding, cliffside path. The first few raindrops fall. Kirby GRUNTS as he struggles to pull the wagon (with appliances and battery) up the steep path.

Radio listens to a STATICKY broadcast and interprets.

RADIO

(listening, repeating)
Thunderstorms... lightning...
Gusting winds... Flood warning...

He makes the abrasive EMERGENCY BROADCAST SYSTEM SOUND.

RADIO (cont'd)

BEEEEEEP! This is the Emergency Broadcast System, designed to keep you informed in the event of an emergency, like, say an incredibly valuable vintage radio being soaked into garage sale condition. BEEEP!

Radio ducks beneath Blankie to protect himself from the rain.

WATSON

Right behind you, Radio!

Watson slides next to Radio (beneath Blankie) as the rain falls harder. Blankie is thrilled to get all the attention.

BLANKIE

Ooh! This is fun! So snuggly. But why do I suddenly feel so strange?

Blankie tries to lift his arms, but the water is beginning to soak his fabric and weigh him down.

TOASTER

It's okay, Blankie. You're just getting a little wet.

BLANKIE

But I feel so... heavy...

(voice slows as he gets
soaked; like he's drunk)
...Hard to keep my head up...

TOASTER

It's the water, Blankie. Weighs you down. Makes you feel funny.

BLANKIE

("drunk-like")

I don't feel... ANYTHING!

Blankie GIGGLES strangely. Radio wiggles about beneath Blankie, then props up part of Blankie's rain-soaked fabric with his antenna like it's a tent.

RADIO

Well, \underline{I} feel all cozy and dry.

WATSON

Yeah... Thanks, Blankie.

Watson huddles next to Radio in the Blankie "tent." Blankie MUTTERS UNINTELLIGIBLY, wet and confused. The blanket is getting so soaked, it presses down on Radio's antenna, causing it to retract. The Blankie "tent" collapses on Radio and Watson. They GROAN.

Kirby struggles to pull the heavy wagon through the mud.

KIRBY

Hey! Will you guys stop weighing me down so much? I'm not supposed to be used on wet surfaces!

The rain becomes a downpour, filling the wagon with water. The car battery SPARKS! Kirby jerks uncomfortably as his power surges. More battery SPARKS. Wires smoke. Watson peeks out from below Blankie at the water-filled wagon.

WATSON

I don't suppose any of you brought along a surge protector?

Kirby's motor REVS erratically under the uneven current of the rain-damaged battery. The wind has picked up -- it is strong enough to flutter Blankie's soaked fabric, exposing Radio to the rain. He shouts in irritation.. RADIO

Hey, don't be such a wet blanket and just cover us already... With your, uh, wet blanket.

Toaster glares at Radio disapprovingly. But then notices Blankie has stretched over the battery, providing momentary cover. The battery stops sparking.

TOASTER

(shouting)

Blankie! That's it! Keep the battery covered!

BLANKIE

("drunk" with water)

What? What? Where am I? I feel funny. Did I ever tell you... I LOVE YOU guys. I really do. HUG!

Blankie tries to give Watson, Toaster, and Radio a hug. Toaster moves behind the battery, so that the "drunk" Blankie will hug the battery instead of him.

TOASTER

I'm right here, Blankie. The square thing with the wires.

BLANKIE

Ooh! You look different! (feeling battery's "muscles")

Have you been working out, Toaster? Hug, hug, hug!

Blankie wraps himself around the battery. Radio keeps pulling parts of Blankie over himself to stay dry.

RADIO

Hey! I need a "hug" too!

(to himself)

Ugh! Can't believe I just said that. This is what happens when you leave your security to a blanket!

LIGHTNING CRASHES. Kirby squints, wiping rain from his eyes.

KIRBY

I can't see a dang thing!

TOASTER

Watson... Can you help?

Watson aims her beam at the dark path, but it's too faint.

WATSON

Sorry, Toaster, that's all I got.

TOASTER

Try charging up.

Toaster gestures towards the sparking battery... sitting in the middle of a rainstorm... in a wagon filling with water.

RADIO

(sarcastically)

Oh, that won't be TOO dangerous.

Watson turns reluctantly towards Toaster. She is frightened. She doesn't want to plug into the battery, but...

TOASTER

We don't have a choice, Watson. Kirby could end up pulling us right off this cliff.

Toaster gestures to the side of the path -- a CRASH OF LIGHTNING momentarily illuminates the steep drop. Both Toaster and Watson jump (Radio is too busy hiding). Watson nods, then plugs into the SPARKING battery.

WATSON

Let there be LIGHT!

A beam of bright light penetrates the darkness. As the power surges, so does Watson's brightness. She stands at the front of the wagon, like Washington crossing the Delaware.

TOASTER

Go, Watson! Let it shine!!!

KIRBY

I think I see shelter ahead, near the mountaintop!

More LIGHTNING and THUNDER CRASHES. The storm is at its peak. Watson's light starts to waiver. The battery sizzles in the rain. It won't hold out much longer.

RADIO

A mountaintop in a lightning storm? In a metal wagon filled with water? What could go possibly go wrong?

The wind nearly blows them off the trail. There's a bright, violent flash as lightning strikes a tree next to them.

We're almost there! Keep being our light in the darkness, Watson.

WATSON

Will do-ooohhhhhh!

A LIGHTNING BOLT hits the battery. BOOM! The battery explodes throwing everyone in opposite directions. For a brief, ultra-slow-motion moment, we see the LIGHTNING FLASH light up the screaming faces of Watson, Toaster, Radio, Blankie, and Kirby. And then the lightning fades.

Darkness once again. The only sound is the hard rain falling on the muddy path.

FADE OUT.

EXT. FRONT OF CABIN - DAY

The Rain is turning into a light drizzle and stopping. In the distance, we can see clouds over the mountains. The LOCKSMITH SIGHS as he again opens the door for the Realtor.

LOCKSMITH

Just don't let "the cabin" attack you again.

REALTOR

Not this time...

INT. LIVING ROOM IN CABIN - DAY - A MOMENT LATER

The floor is now covered with rodent traps (the snapping kind), and large "safe capture" cages for bigger animals.

REALTOR

I've got rodent traps. Critter traps. And my two bloodhounds: Freddie and Mac.

REVEAL: the Realtor has brought in his two vicious bloodhounds -- they BARK loudly and ferociously.

REALTOR

(determined)

This cabin WILL be cleaned.

(to the dogs)

Be right back with some trash bags.

The Realtor exits. CAMERA MOVES TO...

INT. KITCHEN IN CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Winx, plugged into wall, muttering to Blinx (also in wall).

WINX

This looks bad.

BLINX

Relax. Wait `til you see what Electric Toothbrush and Singing Bass have planned. But first... cue the VCR!

The Nightlights FLASH a signal to...

INT. LIVING ROOM IN CABIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

An old VCR that hasn't been touched in years sits below an old TV set. The VCRs perks up excitedly. However, his clock still flashes "12:00."

VCR

Yes! Finally! It's "High Noon" in the old cabin.

The TV above him looks down at VCR's blinking "12:00."

ΤV

Uh... it's always "noon" with you.

VCR

That's not true. Sometimes it's midnight. Now.. watch this.

ANGLE ON: the two dogs in the cabin. Suddenly, they hear STRANGE MECHANICAL SOUNDS coming from the VCR. They cautiously approach, closer and closer. They sniff the device, faces almost pressed against it. And then...

EJECT! An old VCR tape comes flying out of the slot, over their heads. But a piece of the tape is still stuck in the VCR, so the tape unspools around them. The dogs backs up -- but it's too late. Winx and Dinx have grabbed the unspooled tape and are running around the dogs, quickly tying them up.

VCR

That's it, boys! Great work. Now here comes the three most beautiful words in the English language... (dramatic beat, then)
BE KIND, REWIND!

The VCR rewinds the tape caught in its slot, tightening the restraints on the dogs, who WHIMPER.

A MOMENT LATER: the Realtor returns to find... the dogs are tied up and placed in the cages (unharmed). The cages are now dangling above the ground, held fast by a web of old VHS tape

REALTOR

What!? But how...?

Behind his back, Blinx SLAMS the door shut. The Realtor spins but sees nothing.

The TV turns on, FLASHING A SCARY SKULL. The Realtor GASPS.

Then... the novelty "Singing Bass" plague on the wall begins to sing, "Don't Worry, Be Happy." But the words slow to a creepy, menacing crawl.

BASS PLAGUE

Dont' worry... Be... happy...

The Realtor is beginning to freak out. He moves towards the door, but almost runs into... a stuffed TEDDY Bear. The Teddy Bear's head begins to rotate (a la the Exorcist). REVEAL: it's ELECTRIC TOOTHBRUSH, stuffed into the base of the head, and making it spin.

Horrified the Real Estate Agent rushes for the exit but instead runs into the spring traps (moved by the appliances). As they snap on his foot...

REALTOR

Yeee-oww!

... And his hand (when he tries to steady himself on a table, that now contains a spring trap)...

REALTOR (cont'd)

! WWWWWWOO

Covered in snapping traps and unable to rush out the front door, the Realtor jumps out a window, shattering the glass.

REALTOR (cont'd)

GHOSTS!!!

We hear a LOUD SPLASH as the Realtor lands in the mud.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROB'S APARTMENT BUILDING, CITY - DAY

The rain is slowing. From inside we hear Rob on the phone...

ROB (O.S.)

What're you talking about?

INT. ROB'S APARTMENT - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Rob is pacing as he talks on AllPhone.

ROB

(into phone)

No, it's NOT haunted. And what're you doing in there anyway?... What texts? I never sent you any texts.

CLOSE ON ALLPHONE as it hears this conversation. Suddenly, it disconnects the call.

ROB (cont'd)

Hello? Hello? Are you still there?

Rob checks the phone.

ROB (cont'd)

"Signal failure?" How can that be? We're in the middle of the city.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CAVE - DAY

Establishing shot of a cave near the top of the mountain that Toaster and the others had been ascending earlier. The rain has stopped, the sun is out. From inside the cave...

TOASTER (O.S.)

(waking up)

What... what happened?

INT. CAVE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Kirby and Toaster are recovering from the storm.

KIRBY

They're gone. All of `em. Blown away with the wagon and battery.

TOASTER

What? We've gotta help them!

Toaster rushes towards the bright light of the cave's entrance (too bright to see beyond it). Kirby follows.

KIRBY

You think I didn't try? I looked everywhere, but the storm was too much. I barely had enough juice to get you in here out of the rain.

Toaster just rushes wildly out into the sunlight....

TOASTER

(shouting)

Watson! Radio! Blankieeeee--

EXT. CAVE ENTRANCE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

...and ends up teetering on the edge of the cliffside path.

TOASTER

--eeeeeeee?!?!?!

Kirby grabs Toaster's power cord, trailing behind him.

KIRBY

Sorry, Toaster, but it's over.

INT. CAVE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Kirby reels Toaster back into the "safety" of the cave.

TOASTER

No, we can find them! And then we'll find our place to do our stuff! To toast, to clean, to light, to play --

KIRBY

To be old and forgotten. Because that's all that's left for appliances like us.

TOASTER

Stop it, Kirby. Rob needs us.

Kirby shoots Toaster a look. Toaster loses confidence.

TOASTER (cont'd)

(less certain)

Someone... somewhere... they need us. I know it.

KIRBY

You know, when I was young, I used to be like you. Thought I'd be cleaning carpets forever. Then one day, the owners got themselves a fancy, new cordless hand vac. I got sent upstate to the cabin. Did hard time in that closet.

(MORE)

KIRBY (cont'd)

I spent years alone in The Dark Place, choking on moth balls and dreaming of the sweet saxony plush that I'd never feel beneath my rollers again.

TOASTER

I... I'm sorry, Kirby. You never
told us.

KIRBY

That was before you guys showed up. But being alone all those years, I realized something that none of you have yet. Nobody needs us anymore.

TOASTER

That's not true.

KIRBY

Might as well get used to it, friend. No matter what we do, where we go, or how hard we work, old appliances like us always end up end in The Dark Place -- the back of the closet, deep in the basement, or some old cave at the edge of the world.

Toaster looks around at the darkness of the cave. He SHUDDERS slightly, feeling the weight of Kirby's words. But then... he GRITS his teeth, grabs Kirby's cord, and begins pulling him towards the cave entrance.

KIRBY (cont'd)

What're you doing?

TOASTER

Getting us out of The Dark Place.

EXT. CAVE ENTRANCE/CLIFFSIDE PATH - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Toaster begins pulling the larger Kirby up the muddy path towards the mountaintop. Kirby let's out a long sigh.

KIRBY

C'mon, Toaster. Our battery's gone. Reserves are shot. My rollers are on their last roll.

Toaster GRUNTS and STRAINS as he continues pulling Kirby.

TOASTER

We were headed this way...

KIRBY

You can't pull me all the way to the city.

TOASTER

No, but I can get us to the top of this mountain... and let gravity do the rest.

Toaster makes one last JERK, pulling Kirby towards the peak. Kirby sees the peak within reach. He shrugs.

KIRBY

Fine. If you're going to do this, at least let me disengage my parking brake.

EXT. TOP OF MOUNTAIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Kirby now rolls more easily beside Toaster, as they crest the top of the mountain. The valley spreads below them.

TOASTER

(awestruck by view) Whoaa... Will you look at that?

KIRBY

Sorry, Toaster. All I see is a very steep drop down a very long mountain.

TOASTER

Oh, c'mon, Kirby -- just pretend that path is covered with deep, thick, wall-to-wall carpeting.

KIRBY

Hmmm... I like where you're going with this, Toaster.

TOASTER

(dramatically)

A mountain of plush shag, soaked with ground-in grime and deep-down embedded dirt...

Kirby shuts his eyes and smiles, MOANING every so slightly.

TOASTER (CONT'D)

It's waiting for you, Kirby. Just begging to feel the tornado-wind force of your mighty rollers!

KIRBY

(eager; psyched up)

Alright already! Hop on, Toaster! The Clean Machine is coming down!

Toaster leaps onto Kirby, who pushes himself onto the mountain path. As they pick up speed... CAMERA MOVES TO...

A HOLLOWED-OUT LOG, a short distance away (near the same mountaintop). Blankie curiously pokes his head from the log, where he was hiding (with Radio). He looks in the direction that Toaster and Kirby had been heading.

BLANKIE

Toaster...? Kirby?

EXT. SIDE OF MOUNTAIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Neither Kirby nor Toaster hear Blankie as they zoom down the steep slope. They are actually enjoying themselves!

TOASTER AND KIRBY

Woooooooohooooo!

EXT. CAMPSITE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

HUMAN CAMPER #1 is poking his head out of a tent on a mountainside campsite. CAMPER #2 heats up a meal on a stove.

Suddenly, Kirby and Toaster WHIP by them, on their way down the mountain path. Camper #1 looks stunned.

CAMPER #1

Did you see that?

CAMPER #2

What? Some kind of wildlife?

CAMPER #1

Yeah! I mean... No! It looked like a toaster... Riding a vacuum cleaner... Down the mountain.

A beat as Camper #2 stares dubiously at Camper #1

CAMPER #1

For real!

EXT. TOP OF MOUNTAIN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Blankie looks over the edge of the mountain, with Radio.

RADIO

So bread boy and the old linoleum licker survived the storm?

BLANKIE

Yeah! But they're already halfway down the mountain!

WATSON (O.S.)

Then let's get after `em, boys!

Suddenly, Watson leaps into frame. She has mud spread on her "face" like a camouflage paint, branches tucked on her body, and she is yelling like a drunken G.I. Jane. Her bulb is broken and bolts of electricity buzz on her surface.

WATSON

"Rambo up," soldier. And move out!

BLANKIE

Huh?

(to Radio) Is she okay?

RADIO

(whispered)

Not really. She was plugged into the battery when the lightning hit. The surge must've messed with her head. Made her into some kind of rabid... G.I. Glow!.

WATSON

(like a drill sergeant)

Attention!!!

Watson is so intense that both Blankie and Radio, reflexively spring to attention. Radio even salutes her with his antenna.

RADIO

Yessir, sir!

WATSON

Dial up some get-up-and-go, frequency freak! And put some spank-it in it, Blanket! We're doing an AERIAL EVAC!

BLANKIE

A what?

EXT. SIDE OF MOUNTAIN - DAY - A MOMENT LATER

Watson and Radio are holding Blankie over their heads like a hang glider as they go soaring off the top of the mountain.

RADIO AND BLANKIE (screaming in fright as they fly)

WATSON

(thrilled)

Boo-yah!!!

The trio glides wildly through the air, right past....

EXT. CAMPSITE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

...the two campers we saw earlier. Again, Camper #1 sees them, but Camper #2 does not. Camper #1 points and opens his mouth, about to say something...

CAMPER #2

What is it this time?

CAMPER #1

It's a flying...

Camper #1 is about to try to explain what he just saw, but he realizes Camper #2 will never believe him.

CAMPER #1 (cont'd)

Oh, nothing.

He then goes back to eating with Camper #2, as the flying desklamp, radio, and blanket glide down the mountain.

EXT. RAVINE - DAY - CONTINOUS

Kirby and Toaster have reached an area near the bottom of the mountain. They are still coasting along giddily.

TOASTER

Woo! Nice work, Kirby!

Kirby stifles a smile -- he refuses to let Toaster see that he's enjoying himself.

KIRBY

Oh, don't thank me. Thank "gravity." I still think this is THE WORST IDEA EVER!

Suddenly... a SHADOW crosses over them. They look up to see... WATSON AND RADIO "hang-gliding" with BLANKIE.

Blankie?! Watson?! Radio?!

KIRBY

Holy Hammacher Shlemmer! Those gadgets have gone gonzo!

Kirby (with Toaster) speeds after the flying appliances.

EXT. FIELD NEAR RIVER - DAY - CONTINUOUS

The Blankie-parasail drifts quickly towards the ground.

WATSON

Hold on, boys. We're comin' in hot!

RADIO

Into an appliance graveyard?

REVEAL: they are heading for a field filled with old and rusted appliances. Radio and Blankie SCREAM as the trio divebomb right into... the side of an ancient beat-up refrigerator. CRUNCH! Suddenly, the refrigerator comes to life, jarred from his slumber. This is THE GENERAL

THE GENERAL

(waking up, snorting)

What in the... IGNERT sunuva...

The General opens and closes his doors, flinging around his power cord, as if preparing for a fight. But Radio, Blankie, and Watson have all crashed to the ground in a battered daze. Toaster and Kirby RUSH over a moment later.

TOASTER

(to The General)

No! They're not here to hurt you! We're appliances like you. We're on our way to the Big City, but we lost our battery in the storm.

KIRBY

(breathlessly)

We need power bad...

THE GENERAL

Hmmm... We don't get many visitors `round here. But there might be a plug or two in the ol' boathouse.

He gestures at a BOATHOUSE on a river across the field.

KIRBY

Thank you kindly, sir.

THE GENERAL

(warily, looking off)

But I'm not so sure you want to go over there just this second...

Kirby ignores The General and starts to move towards the boathouse when... BANG! A gunshot. A bullet tears through The General's body. Kirby and Toaster dive to the ground, hiding in the tall grass of the field.

THE GENERAL (cont'd)

(wincing)

Ow! Hoo ooh! That's gonna smart.

Radio looks up when he hears the shot (Blankie and Watson are still in a semi-conscious daze).

RADIO

Flippin' Philcos! What was THAT?!

THE GENERAL

Mah owners. Usin' me for target practice. You'd best skeddadle the other way. They'd love nuthin' more'n to blast you fellers too!

Toaster and the others notice a TRAILER in the distance. THE OLD MAN (late 50s), and JUNIOR (young Southern Gangster) are both holding rifles. Junior shoots: BANG!

THE GENERAL (cont'd)

(grimacing)

ACK! Good shot, fellers!

ON JUNIOR AND OLD MAN: all they hear is CREAKING and CRUNCHING from the appliances (that's all humans hear when appliances speak).

BACK ON THE GENERAL: wincing from the shot.

RADIO

Doesn't that hurt?!

THE GENERAL

You betchaahhhhh... But they didn't hit nothin' important... (points to his parts)
Shoot muh metal all ya wants, but lemme keep my refrigerant and my dignity. I'm just glad to be useful in some way.

(nodding thoughtfully)
I know exactly what you mean. We
all need to be useful.

RADIO

(panicking)

Yeah, but not as target practice!

KIRBY

Everyone stay down. We can hide in this grass.

THE GENERAL

Yesssiree! That's what I been sayin' to muh buddies over there.

The General motions behind him to a PAIR OF RUSTED OUT WASHER AND DRYER FRAMES. The "insides" of the machines are long gone, leaving only lifeless shells.

THE GENERAL (cont'd)

Ya wanna survive out here, ya gotta keep a low profile.

Radio MUTTERS as he looks over at the rusted out appliances.

RADIO

More like a "NO profile."

Toaster SHUSHES Radio and turns to The General.

THE GENERAL

(noticing)

What... something wrong with `em?

Radio and Toaster exchange glance. Then...

RADIO

Well, how do I put this delicately. Hmmm... Maybe they, uh, stepped out for some "recycling??"

THE GENERAL

(shocked)

What?! You mean DUBYA and DEE are gone? I only got a view of this part of the yard on account of I can't move much. But I been talkin' to `em for the last five years!

(sadly)

I just thought they was bein' good listeners.

BANG! BANG! BANG! More bullets pierce The General.

THE GENERAL (cont'd)

Oof! Oof! Oof!

(beat)

I'm okay!

Toaster and Radio exchange nervous looks. Just then, WATSON comes out of her daze, still in G.I. Jane-mode. She looks up intensely, her busted-bulb still buzzing with lightning charged intensity.

WATSON

Nobody -- and I mean NOBODY -- takes shots at us without answerin' to THE LAMPINATOR!!!

RADIO

Ugh... Don't tell me you're still all kooked-up from that lightning?

WATSON

I am G.I. Glow!

(dramatically)

And I have not yet begun to light!

Her busted bulb SIZZLES as she uses her electric cord to grab the cords of Toaster, Radio, Blankie, and Kirby. She then charges into the field's tall grass, dragging her friends.

TOASTER

Whaoah! What is this?

WATSON

The charge of the LIGHT BRIGADE!

As Watson races heroically into the field, dragging the others, they all YELL in panic.

THE OLD MAN notices the grass rustling as Watson drags her CREAKING ("yelling") friends.

OLD MAN

There! Live game! Shoot. Shoot!

Junior whips around and takes aim at Toaster. POW! POW! Bullets whip through the air, narrowly missing the gang.

OLD MAN (cont'd)

No, son. Ya gotta lead the target!

JUNIOR

How'm I supposed to know that? All I ever shoot at's them appliances!

OLD MAN

Well, these ain't no appliances son.

ANGLE ON: Toaster and the others, in the tall grass, as they overhear this. They exchanged confused glances. Then...

WATSON

(a battle cry)

For Voltage! For Current! FOR FREEDOM!!!

Watson charges into the boathouse. But just before she enters, Kirby's cord slips from her grip.

INT. BOATHOUSE/WORKSHOP - DAY - CONTINUOUS

The appliances tumble in, chaotically. Watson checks behind her, to see Kirby just a short distance away.

WATSON

No Plug Left Behind! I'll be back.

As Watson charges out, Toaster and the others look around the old boathouse -- its windows are covered. In the darkness, they can barely make out strange shapes -- weird busted appliances and rebuilt contraptions. Very disturbing.

EXT. FRONT OF BOATHOUSE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Watson "dives" and "rolls" out to Kirby, doing a full repertoire of quasi-commando moves. She then lifts the vacuum onto her "shoulders" and carries him -- a classic Marine-carrying-wounded-soldier move. As she runs...

JUNIOR AND THE OLD MAN are creeping closer to the boathouse. They are now standing near The General, watching what appears to be a vacuum cleaner "floating" above the grass (as it is carried by Watson below).

OLD MAN

What in tarnation...?

JUNIOR

Don't see that every day.

OLD MAN

No, you don't.

(beat)

Now KILL IT.

Junior is right near The General when he aims his gun at Kirby, who is being carried/dragged across the field.

ON KIRBY: he opens a weary eye to see... the rifle pointing straight at him.

JUNIOR: about to pull the trigger when...

THE GENERAL mutters to himself.

THE GENERAL

Revenge is a dish best served "refrigerated."

(As usual, the humans only hear METALLIC CREAKS and CRUNCHES.) The General then swings his door open and WHACKS Junior, sending him tumbling. BANG! The shot goes harmlessly into the air.

INT. BOATHOUSE/WORKSHOP - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Watson and Kirby tumble into the strange workshop.

WATSON

Medic! We need AC for Kirby ASAP!

Just then, SWINGING LAMP, a fixture hanging on a wire, lowers itself towards them.

SWINGING LAMP

Outlet's by the wall, friend...

Watson urgently plugs Kirby in. Radio joins them at the outlets, while Toaster helps Blankie plug into a third outlet, reviving him. Toaster notices a box of light bulbs.

WATSON

They should know better than to mess with me. No one screws with G.I. GLOW!

Suddenly, Watson feels Toaster grab her super-charged bulb.

TOASTER

Technically, I'm unscrewing.

Toaster removes the busted, super-charged bulb.

WATSON

Ahhhhhhh!

Watson SHRIEKS and FLOPS to the ground, unconscious (and bulb-less). Toaster screws in a new (round) bulb taken from the box in the boathouse. But Watson remains silent.

BLANKIE

Is she okay?

An uncertain beat. Suddenly, Watson sits up like a reanimated Frankenstein monster. She snaps back to normal, looking around, confused.

WATSON

What... What Happened?

RADIO

You don't remember?

WATSON

Last thing I can recall... There was rain. Lightning. We were in a the wagon and -- (sniffs)
What's that smell?

They realize: they are lying near a MARGARITA BLENDER, who is passed out. Radio plays some music...

RADIO

(the far bar of "Tequila")

Bad da dada dada da da.

The Margarita Blender lifts her "head" area drunkenly.

MARGARITA BLENDER

(slurring)

Tequila!

(passes out again)

RADIO

Margarita Blender. Saw her kind at one of the summer cabin parties. She'll be fine once she sobers up.

Blankie looks around at the workshop, crammed with all kinds of disassembled motors and electronics. It looks like an appliance warehouse blew up, and threw parts everywhere.

Blankie SNUGGLES frightfully up against Toaster.

BLANKIE

I'm scared, Toaster.

TOASTER

Don't worry, Blankie. Nothing to be scared of here.

BLANKIE

What about that? And that? And that?

Blankie gestures towards several objects nearby, including a HEADLESS CUCKOO striking midnight from a battered clock.

SHELVED APPLIANCES with missing parts and exposed wiring writhe awkwardly, like mechanical zombies.

We hear warped sounds of broken motors, grinding metals, dying timers. A broken fan turns with a painful creak.

Swinging Lamp swings down, casting eerie shadows. Curious "zombie" appliances drag themselves over.

SWINGING LAMP

Being taken apart bit by bit is never very pretty.

(turning to zombies)

No offense.

MANGLED APPLIANCE

None taken.

As Toaster, Blankie and the others eye their strange, dark surroundings warily...

EXT. FIELD OUTSIDE BOATHOUSE - DAY

Junior is limping towards the Boathouse with the Old Man

JUNIOR

Didja see that? The ol' fridge sucker punched me!

OLD MAN

Never mind that thing! We've gotta stop them critters from raiding the workshop! Muh liquor blender's in there!

As they urgently creep towards the Boathouse...

INT. BOATHOUSE/WORKSHOP - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Blankie SNUGGLES even closer to Toaster, who stands his ground bravely, as they eye the Swinging Lamp above.

TOASTER

What is this place?

SWINGING LAMP

The Land at the End of the Warranty.

An old style phonograph plops its needle on a record and plays organ HORROR MUSIC.

SWINGING LAMP (cont'd)
The Dis-Assembly Line of Fate. The
place where old appliance meet
their NEW nightmares.

INSERT FLASHBACK -- SAME LOCATION

It's night. An am-fm "flip clock" radio is placed into a vice by the Old Man. He raises his gleaming screwdriver.

SWINGING LAMP (V.O.)
They find us at swap meets and
garage sales. Then they do their
experiments, trying to "fix" us.

We see his shadow on the wall, with screwdriver raised -- his shadow looks like that of a murdering madman, about to plunge a knife into a victim. The screwdriver comes down. The clock radio SCREAMS, but all the human hears is WEIRD SQUEAKS and BENDING SOUNDS. A moment later, the radio's entrails are spilling out everywhere. It's clock numbers flip to: "00;00."

BACK TO PRESENT.

The Swinging Lamp swings ominously.

SWINGING LAMP

We're either torn apart in here, or dumped out there on the shooting range. Hard to say which is worse.

Just then... BANG! A bullet tears through the boathouse. Swinging Lamp quickly pulls up towards the ceiling, while the other appliances duck for cover. From outside we hear...

JUNIOR (O.S.)

Did I get him? Did I get him?

TOASTER

I think it might be worse out there.

Swinging Lamp swings down again.

SWINGING LAMP

You best get OUT now, before they get IN here. Blower, Spinner, Voom-Voom... take `em to the dock.

BLOWER, a modified leaf blower, SPINNER (a busted up fan), and VOOM-VOOM (a strange-looking electric compressor) crawl out of the shadows to lead Toaster and the others. Toaster exchanges puzzled glances with his friends as he mouths the words: "The dock?

EXT. FRONT OF BOATHOUSE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

The Old Man and Junior are creeping closer to the entrance.

EXT. DOCKS BEHIND BOATHOUSE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Blower, Spinner and Voom-Voom lead Toaster and the others onto a dock where a small motorboat is tied up. The vessel's two-stroke, outboard (fuel) MOTORBOAT ENGINE frowns at them.

MOTORBOAT ENGINE

Forgot about it. I'm not taking you Chargers nowhere.

LEAFBLOWER

Ignore that old Burner. There's a dinghy over there. Hoist your sail, and we'll get you started.

TOASTER

What sail?

A MOMENT LATER. Kirby stands in the dinghy holding up one side of Blankie, while Radio, Watson, and Toaster are piled atop each other, holding the other side. Blower, Spinner, and Voom-Voom aim their wind-producing ends at the "sail."

BLANKIE

Are you sure about this?

EXT. FRONT OF BOATHOUSE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Old Man and Junior, rifles raised, are just outside the front of the Boathouse... about to burst in the door.

OLD MAN

We got `em now!

INT. DOCKS BEHIND BOATHOUSE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

The fan, leafblower, and compressor turn on, blowing GUSTS OF WIND into the Blankie sail. The dinghy starts to float away. Swinging lamp shouts from inside the boathouse.

SWINGING LAMP

Blow this joint -- and NEVER come back... if you value your life -- and your warranty!

The appliance WIND pushes Blankie-sail and the dinghy away from the dock and into the river, just as...

Junior and Old Man burst in, weapons raised. A beat. The dinghy is gone. All they see is... the blowing Fan, Compressor and Leafblower.

JUNIOR

Hey who left all that stuff on?

EXT. RIVER - DAY - CONTINUOUS

The dinghy floats safely into the river, with Toaster steering. As they "sail," Blankie looks towards shore, where there are more rusted, abandoned appliances (from Junior and the Old Man's junkyard). Blankie shivers when he sees them.

BLANKIE

Toaster... Will that be us someday?

TOASTER

No, Blankie. Not us. We'll never rust and rot like that. We have a purpose. A function. Whether it's to toast or clean or light or play or hug. We'll find a way to do our function.

WATSON

Yeah! Even if it kills us!

Everyone shoots Watson a look, as if to say, "Not again!"

WATSON (cont'd)

Sorry... It's my PTBD -- "Post Traumatic Bulb Disorder." I'll be fine. I think...

TOASTER

We all will be. I've got a good feeling about this. There's nothing but smooth sailing ahead!

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. DOWNRIVER - DAY - LATER

The river has turned into rapids. The dinghy is sucked wildly through the whitewater. The appliances are now all clinging to the bottom of the boat, as the craft is tossed and turned, bouncing off rocks, and nearly flipping over. Water and foam splashes everywhere. The appliances yell.

APPLIANCES

АННННННННН!

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. ROB'S APARTMENT BUILDING, CITY - DAY

From inside we hear...

ROB (O.S.)

He said my cabin is "haunted."

INT. ROB'S APARTMENT - DAY - CONTINUOUS/INT

Lily is in the apartment with Rob, as he prepares to leave.

LILY

I'm sure he just over-reacted. You know how those country folk get.

ROB

I know. Thanks for driving back there with me. And bringing your phone. There's something wrong with mine.

Rob puts AllPhone on the counter. When he's not looking, AllPhone flashes an angry face on her screen.

LILY

Maybe you need an upgrade?

When ALLPHONE hears this, she freaks out and turns on a smart appliance FAN at full blast.

LILY (cont'd)

Ahhh! Rob, cut it out!

ROB

(checking his phone)
But I'm not doing anything!

A LEGO MINDSTORM-style robot zooms out of Rob's room, grabs a few shovel-full of peanuts from a jar on the table, and throws them into the fan gusts, so that Lily gets pelted.

LILY

Echh! It's hailing peanuts -- in
your apartment!

ROB

I don't know what's happening! I didn't even touch AllPhone.

LILY

Oh, great. Now your apartment's "haunted" too?

As Rob powers down AllPhone...

ROB

Sorry... Lemme just shut her down. Then let's go!

Rob places the powered-off AllPhone on the counter and then exits with Lily. However, as soon as they exit... AllPhone POWERS ON, all by herself. She makes an EVIL SMILE.

WIPE TO:

EXT. CALM RIVER - SUNSET

The dinghy is now floating on a calmer part of the river. At first, it's unclear whether anyone is still in the boat as it cruises towards a brightly-lit ranger station on shore.

Suddenly, Radio's ANTENNA rises over the edge of the boat.

RADIO

I'm picking up a signal. AM. Very loud. "Park Service hours. For visitor information, stop by the Ranger Station and..."

Now RADIO pops his whole body up, followed by Blankie, Watson, Kirby, and a creaky Toaster.

RADIO (cont'd)

Look at the size of that antenna! Oh, ain't she a beauty! Come to, papa, baby!

Radio is ogling a 10-foot broadcasting antenna atop the Ranger Station (which sends out the park service broadcast). Toaster steers the dinghy towards the sandy shore.

WATSON

I see outdoor outlets too!

The appliances leap onto shore and head for the outdoor AC plugs. They pass a small helicopter parked on a helipad nearby, and a second building behind the cabin.

On the way to the outlets, Blankie gets distracted -- he sees RANGER JAMES, one of the park rangers, exit a ranger truck. Ranger James is carrying a wounded Labrador-style dog into the building behind the cabin. The dog looks sick and dehydrated. Blankie curiously follows the Ranger.

With their last remaining strength, Toaster, Watson, and Kirby plug into an outlet on the side of the ranger station. They EXHALE in relief as they feel the voltage. KIRBY

Ahhh... Sweet, A.C. Straight from the source.

RADIO

I've gotta say: it totally turns me on.

Radio turns on and begins to PLAY MUSIC. The other SHUSH him. He lowers his volume. Toaster looks around.

TOASTER

Hey... Where's Blankie?

EXT. OTHER SIDE OF RANGER STATION - SUNSET - CONTINUOUS

Toaster and the others quietly sneak around to see... RANGER JAMES is now carrying (an inanimate) Blankie into the second building behind the main cabin.

KIRBY

I don't like the looks of this.

Kirby eyes a small dumpster nearby. Toaster notices as well. Toaster moves to a window on the side of the second building.

TOASTER

I'll get Blankie out of there.
Kirby... A boost?

Kirby leans against the wall of the second building so Toaster can climb up him. Toaster then lassos his cord onto the edge of an open window, and climbs inside the structure.

INT. ANIMAL CLINIC - SUNSET - CONTINUOUS

Toaster drops in through the window. Dogs, cats, and other animals begin HOWLING. Toaster looks up to see... this second building contains an animal clinic, where Ranger James takes care of lost and wounded animals. Toaster ducks into the shadows as the animals howl.

RANGER JAMES

Calm down, everyone. Can't you see I'm on the phone?

Ranger James is at the other end of the room, speaking on a phone. The animals cease most of their howling as Toaster peaks out again. Everywhere he looks, there are pens holding animals -- raccoons, coyotes, owls, cats, and dogs. Ranger James sits at the far end, talking on a phone.

RANGER JAMES (cont'd)

(into phone)

...Yeah, it looks like some other campers left their dog behind. Found him hungry and scared.

BY HIS FEET: we see the "wounded" dog.

ON TOASTER: as he ducks in and out of the shadows, spy-style, trying not to be seen by the Ranger. Various animals GROWL.

RANGER JAMES (cont'd)
The dog's fine. Turns out some
other campers left their electric
blanket behind, right in front of
the station.

TOASTER perks up when he hears this. Then we REVEAL:

Blankie is wrapped warmly around the dog.

RANGER JAMES (cont'd)
Yep. Plugged it in, and it still
works. Although I don't know who
would ever bring an ELECTRIC
blanket on a camping trip.

Blankie HUMS ever so slightly, charged by electricity. The dog nuzzles deeper into his heated interior.

RANGER JAMES (cont'd)
Anyway... I'm going to be taking
the chopper out for a run into
town. Let me know if you need me
to pick up anything else. See ya.

Ranger James hangs up the phone, and gives the dog by his feet a playful little pet. He then gets up and heads for the exit. All the animals snarl and bark, as if trying to tell him about the "intruder" (Toaster).

RANGER JAMES (cont'd) (misinterprets)
Yeah, yeah... I hear ya. I'll let

you guys use the blanket too.

TOASTER'S EYES WIDEN as he hears this. Ranger James steps right past him as he hides in the shadows.

EXT. CLINIC - DUSK - CONTINUOUS

Kirby and Watson also duck into the shadows as Ranger James passes them. Suddenly, Kirby looks around.

KIRBY (cont'd)

Hey... Where's Radio?

WATSON

Said he wanted to get a better look at that antenna. After years of receiving their signals, he wanted to meet one face-to-face.

WHIP PAN TO: RADIO, as he tries to get a better look at the large antenna on the roof of the Ranger Station.

RADIO

(about the antenna)

You are one Total Tower of Power!

Radio climbs on the parked helicopter. The vehicle has a "face" that GRUMBLES at him, as Radio scales its exterior.

RADIO (cont'd)

(to helicopter)

Relax, pal... You're the only thing around here that I can climb. I'll just be a sec.

INT. CLINIC - DUSK - CONTINUOUS

Once the Ranger is out of sight, Toaster leans around a corner to call to Blankie, wrapped around the sick dog. Blankie has the biggest and most content smile ever.

TOASTER

Psst! Blankie! Let's go! Before the human gets back!

BLANKIE

Toaster? What...? But I can't!

Toaster stops. He see the dog is affectionately burying its face in Blankie, who LAUGHS like he hasn't laughed in years.

TOASTER

C'mon! We don't have much time!

BLANKIE

But that nice Ranger... he plugged me in! No one's done that since... I can't even remember!

TOASTER

Yeah, great but we appliances don't always have the best relationship with animals. They chew our cords. Soil and scratch us.

BLANKIE

Not this guy. He needs me -- the way Rob used to me. Everyone thinks a kid needs their blanket, but the blanket needs the kid just as much. Maybe more.

TOASTER

What?!

Suddenly, Toaster hears radio SCREAM outside.

RADIO (O.S.)

Helllllp!!?!

Toaster turns to rush outside.

BLANKIE

Go, Toaster. Don't worry about me. This is all I've ever wanted. To be loved and hugged. And to keep someone warm. It's my desta...dee.

TOASTER

Destiny?

BLANKIE

Yeah! That.

TOASTER

No, it's not! I'll be back!

EXT. CLINIC - DUSK/NIGHT

Toaster charges out to see... Ranger James starting up the helicopter... With Radio trying to scramble off of it.

RADIO

My cord's stuck! Helllllllp!

Radio tries to hop away, but his cord is wrapped around the landing skids. The helicopter starts to rise.

Toaster and Watson are racing to the helicopter, but the fully-charged Kirby ZOOMS ahead, scooping up both of them.

KIRBY

Just hang on, Radio!

RADIO

Don't really have much of a choice!

Kirby SKIDS to a stop right by the helicopter and flings Toaster and Watson at Radio. They both grab onto Radio.

TOASTER

Gotcha!

Watson slips slightly and finds herself hanging from Toaster, while Toaster is suddenly hanging from Radio. And the helicopter just rises higher.

RADIO

Great idea, Toaster. Now we're all stuck up here.

KIRBY

Not all of us... Yet.

Kirby forms his electrical cord into a LASSO and throws it right around Watson's base. Kirby then REVERSES with his all his might, trying to pull down his three friends. For a moment, the HELICOPTER actually stops rising.

ONBOARD: Ranger James looks puzzled.

RANGER JAMES

What is that? Turbulence?

He checks his mirror - the appliances are in a blindspot. He REVS the MOTOR and LIFTS the helicopter higher.

The appliances YELL... As Kirby is pulled higher.

The FACE ON THE (living) HELICOPTER just grins, amused by the dangerous antics of the appliances on his skids.

All four appliances are now dangling off the skids as the helicopter rises... 10, 50...100 feet off the ground.

KIRBY

(snarling at helicopter)
Dang, Burners!

ALL APPLIANCES

(yelling in terror)

They rise even higher, leaving the Ranger Station and Clinic behind. Toaster looks down at the clinic below. He can see the glow of the lights inside.

TOASTER

(stunned)

Blankie...?

Kirby retracts his electric cord to get closer to the other appliances. The helicopter evens out.

KIRBY

Is everyone okay?

Radio plays DRAMATIC MUSIC.

RADIO

(hysterical)

Sure. Other than we're hundreds of feet above the ground, facing immediate peril and death!

WATSON

And where's Blankie?

Toaster nods towards the animal clinic below them, slowly fading into the distance.

TOASTER

Down there in some kind of animal clinic.

WATSON

What!?

TOASTER

But I think... he might like it.

RADIO

Whoaa... Would ya look at that...

Radio gestures towards... the distant city -- the helicopter is flying right towards it.

WATSON

RADIO

With those odds, you might even be able to find your bulb-mate.

WATSON

(excitedly)

You think so? For real?

RADIO

Not really. But I'm sure someone there will pay a small fortune for a classic like me.

Just then, the Helicopter STEERS AWAY FROM THE CITY.

TOASTER

Wait... Why's the city getting smaller?

The appliances begin to PANIC! As they struggle, they tug on the landing gear, causing the helicopter to jostle.

INT. INSIDE HELICOPTER - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Ranger James feels the vehicle shifting. He checks the controls, then checks the REARVIEW MIRROR. Nothing there.

But then he ADJUSTS the rear view mirrors and sees... A STRING OF APPLIANCES hanging off his helicopter.

RANGER JAMES

What?! Where'd THAT come from?!

ALARMS SOUNDS! The extra weight and movement is destabilizing the helicopter. It ROCKS and DIVES.

EXT. ON THE HELICOPTER LANDING SKIDS - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

The gang tries to HANG ON for dear life! With each JOSTLE, Radio's cord gets a little looser.

RADIO

Can't hold on, fellas! I'm about to go OFF the helicopter, and ON THE AIR! AHHHHHH!

With one last NOSE DIVE, radio's knot comes loose.

Suddenly Radio falls, dragging the others with him. They all YELL as they FREE FALL in the sky. The face on the helicopter watches them with an evil smile. Kirby sees the chopper's smile as he drops.

KIRBY

Dang, Burnerssss!

The appliances drop wildly through the air. The TREETOPS come at them with astonishing speed! In a flash, one BRANCH after another crashes into them.

EXT. SIDE OF HIGHWAY - NIGHT

They all SLAM into a large SHRUB near the side of a highway leading into the city.

A MOMENT of silence and then... from the bushes we hear...

RADIO (O.S.)

(with a groan)

And this concludes our broadcasting day.

A beat then...

TOASTER

I don't think so.

Toaster is the first to flop out of the bushes. He looks a bit beaten up, but otherwise okay. Toaster reaches into the bushes and pull out Watson (whose bulb is surprisingly intact), Radio, and then Kirby.

TOASTER (cont'd)

We didn't come this far to give up now...

KIRBY

Sorry, Toaster... But I used a lot of juice trying to pull that dang Burner down from the sky.

TOASTER

But I can see the city.

Toaster gestures towards the city skyline a few miles away (they covered a lot of ground on their helicopter "ride"). We also see a "service station" just ahead on the road.

TOASTER

And we can charge up at that gas station. C'mon...

Toaster helps lift Watson, Radio, and Kirby, who just groans. He begins leading the others down the road towards the Service Station. Suddenly, the ground rumbles.

TOASTER

Truck! Into the bushes...

The appliances duck into the roadside growth as a vehicle drives up the lonely highway. The gang stays low, waiting for it to past. Then they realize... It's the GARBAGE TRUCK that was at their cabin earlier (with "Reaper Bros" written on the side). It carries a dumpster as it rolls by slowly, menacingly - an Angel of Death on wheels.

The appliances stare at it in terror. But then...

RADIO

Geez... That fella really gets around.

KIRBY

Can't escape the inevitable. Can't escape... The Dark Place.

TOASTER

Oh, be quiet, Kirby. Let's move...

Once the truck is gone, Toaster leads them out of hiding towards...

EXT. SERVICE STATION - NIGHT - A MOMENT LATER

They pass what looks like gas pumps -- but they are hollowedout on the inside (like a gas pump with its center carved out). And instead of nozzles and hoses, there are electrical cords coming out of the strange "pumps." (It's actually a version of the Tesla "Super Charger" station.)

RADIO

This is not like any "gas" station I've ever seen.

A stylish-looking car is parked next to one of the "pumps." This is ALVA, a Tesla-style, all-electric vehicle.

KIRBY

Just stay clear of the Burners. We don't want any trouble.

Suddenly, a face appears on the front of Alva, and he speaks to the appliances as they roll by.

ALVA

Who're you calling a "Burner?"

All the appliances stop when they see Alva speak to them.

ALVA (cont'd)

I'm an all Electric car. Name's Alva. I live off the same charge as you.

TOASTER

What?!??

RADIO

Hey, I think I've heard of you electric cars on that public radio show I never really listen to that closely. So, uh, I don't really know that much about you. But... Nice to meet ya.

ALVA

Same here, friend.

KIRBY

(unable to comprehend)
Did you say... "All... <u>Electric</u>...
Vehicle?"

ALVA

Yep. My master's in the waiting booth over there while I volt up. This place gives me 100 hours of charge in just 20 minutes.

TOASTER

So you're like... a big old appliances with wheels?

ALVA

Who can do 0-to-60 in 2.3 seconds.

WATSON

Is that fast?

Kirby stares at the car completely awestruck. For him, it's like meeting a superhero or a deity of some sort.

KIRBY

That's more than fast. It's electric magic; it's high voltage poetry. It's pure, hot-wired bliss.

Radio, Watson, and Toaster shoot Kirby curious looks -- who knew he was so poetic? Alva blushes.

ALVA

Oh, you're too kind, friend. But I'm just like you, just doing what I was built for.

TOASTER

I know! That's what I keep telling them! We toast, we light, we clean.

As Kirby moves towards one of the chargers...

KIRBY

We charge. Let me try that.

ALVA

Oh, you'll need an adapter for that. And a huge appetite.

Alva flips Kirby an adapter, which he attaches to one of the cables from the station.

KIRBY

Don't worry about me.

As soon as Kirby plugs in, he begins to SHUDDER and glow.

KIRBY (cont'd)

(shuddering)

N-n-n-n-n-n-nnnnnn!

WATSON

Uh-oh... I think we should worry about him now.

KIRBY

(as he charges)

N-n-n-n-n-n-n-nnnnnnn!

TOASTER

Kirby? Are you okay?

ALVA

Woo! Gotta say, my hood's off to that guy. He's got a pair of wires on him! Never seen a regular appliance plug into one of these.

KIRBY

N-n-n-n-n-n-nnnnn!

TOASTER

But... He's looking a little... Over charged.

RADIO

Sort of like when the lightning struck Watson.

WATSON

What lightning?

TOASTER

We better hold onto him.

Toaster, Watson, and Radio grab onto Kirby -- just in time. He suddenly shoots off like a rocket.

KIRBY

Wooooooooooooooo!

The charge is so powerful, Kirby is suddenly ZOOMING out of the station at 100 mph.

Toaster, Radio, and Watson are barely able to hold onto his sides with their front "hands," while their rears are flapping in the breeze. They YELL as if on a runaway thoroughbred. As Kirby ZOOMS down the nearby roadway at an unbelievable speed...

ALVA just chuckles.

ALVA

Heh-heh... Godspeed, friend! Go, go, go! And I'll see you on the other side!

HIGH AND WIDE on roadway, as Kirby whips down it at blazingly fast speeds, up and down hills, around turns. CAMERA ANGLE MOVES TO show: he is heading straight for the big city.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CABIN - NIGHT - ESTABLISHING SHOT.

Rob's car is parked out front. Rob and Lily enter the cabin.

INT. LIVING ROOM IN CABIN - NIGHT

As Rob opens the door, the switch plate drops the "hidden" keys onto the table below it. Then the switch plate becomes inanimate -- just as Rob flips the switch.

ROB

Hey, what's that guy talking about? The keys are right here...

As they stroll around the cabin...

LILY

Doesn't look very haunted to me.

ROB

Who knows? I'm not sure why that Realtor was even IN here.

INT. KITCHEN IN CABIN - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Rob and Lily enter to see the fridge in an odd location. Also... the counter is strangely barren.

ROB

Where's the radio. And my Toaster!

Rob checks inside the fridge -- it's empty.

LILY

Think someone broke in again? I mean, other than the realtor, of course.

ROB

I don't know. But I don't have time to keep driving back and forth like this. I've got stuff to do in the City.

LILY

Well, we're here now. Let's stay the night and drive back in the morning, right after breakfast.

Rob looks over towards the empty counter.

ROB (cont'd)

Okay. But breakfast won't be the same... without some toast. And my toaster.

As Rob stares sadly at the counter...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. THE BIG CITY - DAWN

Kirby has slowed significantly but is still moving at a reasonable clip as he carries Toaster, Watson, and Radio into the city. It is early and there are few cars -- and even fewer pedestrians -- to see a vacuum cleaner carrying appliances down the street. Watson is in a protective "ball" on Kirby's front section. Toaster wipes splattered bugs off his chrome. Radio tries to clean his "grill."

RADIO

(spitting out debris)
Ughhh... You're lucky you're "armorcoated" Toaster.

TOASTER

(wiping off bugs)
Not THAT lucky. Next time, let's
try to MISS a bug or two.

KIRBY

(still shocked)

Wow. I...uh... just... WOW!

TOASTER

Radio... You still have Rob's address on you?

RADIO

Yes, I do. I lived there years ago, before they moved me to the cabin. So the address <u>is</u> ON me.

Radio lifts his bottom to show an address: "If found, return to 747 River Street." Then Radio frowns as he sees this...

RADIO (cont'd)

Hmm... Hope that doesn't hurt my purchase price...

As they pass a traffic light, Toaster looks up towards it.

TOASTER

(to traffic light)

Excuse me, Red Light, Green Light.

Do you know where...

(checks address on Radio)

747 River Street is?

The Traffic LIGHT uses its arrows to point them in the right direction. Toaster nods gratefully.

TOASTER (cont'd)

Thank you!

Kirby turns to follow the arrow's direction.

EXT. ROB'S APARTMENT BUILDING, CITY - MORNING - CONTINUOUS

Kirby rolls into frame, slowly running out of juice.

RADIO

That's it! Rob's building.

But just before they can reach it, a homeless-looking JUNK COLLECTOR, pushes a shopping cart down the street. As he sees the appliances...

JUNK COLLECTOR

Well, what do we have here...

The appliances stiffen up as the junk man examines them.

JUNK COLLECTOR (cont'd)

Nice lamp. And I know someone who's looking for a toaster. And... wow... I can probably get some cash for that radio.

Radio mutters to the others.

RADIO

What did I tell you?

KIRBY

Hush up, Radio.

But all the Junk Collector hears is RADIO STATIC and GRINDING from the vacuum cleaner. And then some CREAKING from Toaster, as he speaks to the others.

TOASTER

No, no, no! We've come too far to get snatched up now!

RADIO

Well, that depends: HOW MUCH money do you think he's talking about?

The Junk Collector continues to examine the items -- hearing ONLY strange CREAKS, GRINDS, and STATIC. He clears a spot in his shopping cart for them.

KIRBY

You guys go into the building. I'll take care of this guy.

TOASTER

What? But you can't!

KIRBY

Like you said, Toaster, we've come too far. Who knows where we'll end up once he puts us in that cart.

TOASTER

I won't let you do this, Kirby!

KIRBY

Toaster, you always said we had a destiny.

TOASTER

Yeah, to make Toast. To play. To light. And your job is to clean up.

KIRBY

Well, that's what I'm doing, Toaster. I'm cleaning up.

He pushes Radio, Watson and Toaster towards the house.

KIRBY (cont'd)

Now go!!!

Kirby then hooks his cord onto the cart and begins pulling it. The Junk Collector turns to see a vacuum cleaner towing away his cart of "valuables."

JUNK COLLECTOR

Huh? Hey! Come back here!

The Collector chases his cart, but it begins to pick up speed as it heads down a small hill (with Kirby still in front).

TOASTER

Kirbyyyyy!

But Kirby and the cart keep rolling, faster and faster. The cart is nearly half a block away. The Collector is about to grab it. But the cart and Kirby roll into the street. CAR BRAKES SQUEAL. The cart goes flying. Its contents are tossed everywhere. It is a mess of junk and an overturned shopping cart in the street, with the Collector SCREAMING.

Toaster looks on from the distance, but sees no sign of Kirby in the pile of scattered debris and overturned cart.

TOASTER

(nervously)

Kirby...?

As he is looking for Kirby, Toaster is jerked away by Watson.

WATSON

C'mon! If we don't get out of here, that nut'll grab us too!

INT. VESTIBULE - ROB'S BULDING - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Watson drags Toaster into the building's entryway, next to Radio. They are safely obscured from the street in here. Toaster still wants to help Kirby, but suddenly, the DOOR BUZZER forms a face above them.

DOOR BUZZER

Hurry inside, please. Elevator will take you where you need to go.

The Buzzer looks "nervously" over it's shoulder at a camera lens built into its upper section.

WATSON

Huh? Do you know us?

DOOR BUZZER

No, but I've been told: "Rob's apartment is waiting for you."

Toaster, Watson, and Radio exchange puzzled looks. The door BUZZES open. The three appliances head for the elevator.

INT. HALLWAY - ROB'S FLOOR - DAY

The Elevator opens and Toaster, Watson and Radio exit. The elevator has a face on its buttons panel.

ELEVATOR

Last door at the end of the hall.

RADIO

Yes, I remember.

Radio exits the elevator and leads them off to the right.

ELEVATOR

The OTHER end of the hall.

RADIO

Oh. Of course. This way...

Radio spins around and leads them down the hall to the <u>left</u>.

ELEVATOR

Good luck!

(under breath)

You'll need it.

The elevator shuts its door, as if suddenly being called away. The appliances exchange puzzled looks, but continue heading for the door. The door's locks CLICK open.

INT. ROB'S APARTMENT - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Toaster leads Watson and Radio cautiously inside.

TOASTER

Hello...? Anyone home?

Suddenly, all the LIGHTS come on. The apartment's stereo system BLARES DRAMATIC MUSIC. And the room is filled with the WHIRRING and RUMBLING of appliances as every electric item in the room is suddenly BUZZING. The door SLAMS behind them. Toaster, Radio, and Watson jump back in shock. Then...

ALLPHONE

Yes, we're ALL here.

AllPhone emerges from the shadows of the apartment, carried atop the Roomba-style vacuum cleaner, like it was a chariot. She "wears" a "revealing gown" app on her screen.

TOASTER

AllPhone!

RADIO

(impressed)

Whoaaa... NICE ENTRANCE!

(eyeing the apartment)

And look what you've done to the place. Nothing like I remember it.

Toaster "elbows" Radio to be quiet. Toaster turns intensely to AllPhone, who circles them menacingly like a "shark.".

TOASTER

Where's Rob? Who let us in?

AllPhone's screen shows an image of Toaster, Watson, and Radio taken from the building's front door camera.

ALLPHONE

Imagine my surprise when I saw you old, pathetic appliances on our doorstep. Yes, I can access the building's camera, the doors, the elevator, and ALL the locks.

The door's electronic locks suddenly CLICK shut.

ALLPHONE (cont'd)

(menacingly)

Welcome to MY world.

ALLPHONE pulls up a YOUTUBE VIDEO OF A THUNDERCLAP. She then puts the THUNDERCLAP on the FLATSCREEN TV, LAPTOP, and any other screen around. The nearby lamps, laptop, microwave, stereo, an E-Reader, and other devices close in, including a FLOOR FAN SPINNING threateningly, and a boiling SPACE HEATER.

TOASTER

We don't want trouble. We just want to see Rob.

ALLPHONE

Rob's not here.

(calling to side)

Mini-amp with docking station!

A MINI-AMP (the kind used to play music from a smartphone) hops over, dragging two large, speakers.

MINI-AMP

Coming, AllPhone!

Mini-Amp climbs atop the Roomba, and AllPhone hops into its docking station, making her even taller and more imposing. AllPhone's voice is now amplified by the speakers.

ALLPHONE

(voice through mini-amp)
Rob no longer needs you! This
world belongs to me and Rob!

As AllPhone's voice echoes dramatically, E-READER sidles over awkwardly, correcting AllPhone.

E-READER

(a priggish librarian)

Actually, I believe you mean "Rob and I."

ALLPHONE

No. Not you. Rob and me.

E-READER

Huh? Have you updated your grammar app lately? It's "Rob and I."

ALLPHONE

I think it's time for "you and yourself" to take a nap.

E-READER

What?!

AllPhone sends a signal to E-Reader to put her to sleep. As the E-Reader's screen dims...

E-READER (cont'd)

I can't help it. Words are my lifffffeeeee...

ALLPHONE

Anyone else want to test me today? Anyone?

The other appliances in the apartment step back cautiously.

WATSON

How'd she do that?

ALLPHONE

I told you back in the cabin: I'm web-enabled, bluetooth-compatible, WIFI super-fied, interstellar-future-proofed, and instantly upgradeable every 15 seconds.

(MORE)

ALLPHONE (cont'd)
I am ALLPHONE and they're ALL
connected to me. I control them.
The lights. The heat. The
kitchen. Even that new guy over
there: the 3D Printer.

A 3D PRINTER that creates 3D objects by dripping melted plastic on a heated platform comes to life. It SNIFFLES its nose (that's where the dripping plastic comes from). It speaks like an overeager little kid with a runny nose

3D PRINTER I can make ANYTHING!

The 3D Printer begins dripping/building an "Iron Maiden" torture contraption in the shape of a desk lamp.

ALLPHONE

That's one for you, Low-watt.

Watson GASPS and hides behind Toaster.

ALLPHONE (cont'd)

And these are for the rest of you!

AllPhone gestures and a fleet of remote-controlled cars drive in, surrounding the appliances. This is followed by a group of marching MindStorm LEGO-style robots.

RADIO

Holy Toledo! Where'd those come from?

ALLPHONE

Rob had one. I bought more. I control his checkbook, his e-mail, his text messages. I can order anything I want online.

(making a phone order)
Yes... Please send over six remotecontrolled drones. Same day
delivery. Thank you.

RADIO

Drones?

ALLPHONE

You'll see them soon enough.
 (to appliance minions)
Now it's time to take out the trash!

The Robots and radio-controlled cars move towards Toaster, but he hops back, then flips onto his slot-top. POP!

He ejects his toaster springs extra hard, propelling himself up onto a couch, out of reach of the remote-controlled cars.

TOASTER

Radio! Watson! Up here!

Toaster extends his cord down for the other appliances, but a remote controlled TRUCK zooms in and scoops Watson up. As she is dragged away...

WATSON

Toasterrrrr!

Radio also can't reach the cord. As the toy robots close in, Radio spins around and wields his antenna like a sword.

RADIO

Ha! Engarde! I strike! I parry! I play Top 40!

Radio strikes at the robots, while playing bubblegum-rockstyle tunes. His antenna blows are surprising effective, knocking over several of the LEGO-style robots. They fall over and break into dozens of pieces. They GROAN comically. But more cars and robots close in, forcing Radio towards...

THE SPINNING FAN. It pops off its protective cover, revealing its high-speed blades. A SECOND FAN does the same thing

RADIO (cont'd)

Uh-oh... The fans have turned on me!

Radio tries to run the other way, only to see... a HIGH SPEED CAKE MIXER marching towards him, spinning its mixing blades. There is nowhere to run.

RADIO (cont'd)

Uh-oh. Don't wanna get mixed up with that either!

The fans and mixer close in. Just as they attack...

TOASTER

(yelling a BATTLE CRY)

REVEAL: Toaster has wrapped his cord around the side of the sofa and is swinging down, Tarzan-toaster-style. He SLAMS into the back of the Fans, sending them tumbling into the mixer. CRASH! CRUNCH! WHIRR! Fan and mixer parts go flying.

Toaster keeps swinging... right into Radio. The two of them tumble into each other and roll across the floor. They look up to see... SPACE HEATER charging towards them.

RADIO

Hop on my back!

Toaster hops on Radio's back. He charges towards the Heater.

TOASTER

You know what you're doing?

RADIO

No idea!

They are just about to hit Space Heater when Radio plants his antenna like a pole vault, and sends both Toaster and Radio flying over the head of the heater and across the apartment.

TOASTER AND RADIO

AHHHHHH!

Meanwhile, Watson is still on top of the remote controlled car, racing around the apartment.

WATSON

Stop! Pleeeeeease!

Watson look ahead up to see... the 3D-Printed Iron Maiden contraption. It is being held up by two table lamps. They are waiting for the RC car to hurl Watson into it. But just before she reaches it...

SNAP! Her cord stiffens and Watson is pulled back off the car... which careens into the lamp and plastic Iron Maiden, BREAKING it. The 3D Printer shouts from above.

3D PRINTER

Ooh! I can make another one!

3D Printer begins eagerly printing again.

ON THE FLOOR: Watson is dragged by her cord into one of the bedrooms. The door then SLAMS behind her.

INT. ROB'S BEDROOM - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Watson is stunned as she looks around the room.

WATSON

Who keeps pulling my...

She then sees... RAY, an almost identical-looking desk lamp (but he's a male, and has a modern CFL bulb). He glows heroically above Ray.

RAY

Are you okay?

Watson just makes her lovesick smile, smitten with Ray.

WATSON

(lovesick; "speechless")
Ggghhh...ammmm... hoooo...

RAY

(comforting)

Relax. We'll be safe in here. AllPhone doesn't control me. I'm Ray, one of the few guys around here that's too old to be a "smart" appliance.

WATSON

You look plenty "smart" to me!

Watson then GIGGLES GIRLISHLY, completely in love. She has no idea what to say. So she GIGGLES some more. Ray just eyes her curiously.

RAY

Are you SURE you're okay?

INT. ROB'S APARTMENT - MAIN ROOM - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Toaster has tumbled into the corner of the room. He is battling an extremely-stylish "Smart" CAN OPENER that keeps trying to open up his metal. They GRUNT and GROAN (and GRIND) as they struggle...

TOASTER

Get your "ergonomic" paws off me!

Toaster flings the can opener away -- its magnetic part gets stuck to the metal of one of the remote controlled cars, which ends up dragging it away.

Iphone, still on the mini-amp atop the chariot-like Roomba, rolls over menacingly.

ALLPHONE

You poor, simple, ONE-FUNCTION fool. Rob deserves better.

TOASTER

But we're special to him. He has memories with us.

ALLPHONE

Memories? I AM Rob's memory.

AllPhone pulls up every picture taken by Rob or his family. The photos appear on AllPhone's screen, as well as the flatscreen and other screens in the apartment.

TOASTER

Well, if you're so important, then why aren't you with Rob now?

AllPhone frowns -- Toaster has hit a nerve. Just then, we hear THUMP, THUMP, THUMP.

ALLPHONE (cont'd)

I've got a better question: have you ever met... ULTRA-Toaster.

THE ULTRA-TOASTER, a large, "sumo-like" smart appliance with six slots (and a bunch of digital features), stomps towards Toaster. It picks up several drink coasters and tosses them into all of its slots. It then POPS its toaster slots to launch the coasters, rapid-fire style, like a machine gun.

The coaster discs tear through the air so quickly, they almost severe Toaster's cord. Toaster ducks and dodges. Another barrage heads towards him. This time, he bends backwards out of their way, and we do a MATRIX-STYLE FREEZE AND DOLLY around Toaster as he is leaning back. The Coasters whip by him in slow-motion. One Coaster comes so close it actually DINKS off Toaster's metal.

CAMERA speeds up again as Toaster flips over, dodging the coasters... until one bounces off the wall and lands in Toaster's slot. He stops... CHOKING and GAGGING on the coaster until... he HURLS it up -- right at Ultra Toaster, hitting its digital RESET button. It whirs down and REBOOTS.

ON A DESK: where Radio landed after his bizarre pole vaulting. He tries to sneak behind an open laptop when he suddenly hears a BONG. The laptop's screen is glowing brightly. He can't resist looking at it. ON SCREEN: he sees a photo of an identical-looking Radio on an Ebay-style site.

RADIO

Whoaa... Is that me? Finally: we can see just how many <u>millions</u> of dollars people will pay for me.

The LAPTOP also has a face as it eyes Radio dubiously.

LAPTOP

This one is only selling for a few thousand.

RADIO

Well, that's okay too. Get me on that site, `puter-boy! I'm ready for my close-up.

Radio strikes a "seductive" poses in front of the laptop's camera. The Laptop just eyes him awkwardly.

LAPTOP

Uh, well... okay. But I just need to confirm something. Do you have tubes or transistors?

RADIO

Why, transistors, of course! Tubes
are for antiques!
 (beat; realizing)
Wait a minute... I have
transistors???

LAPTOP

If that's the case, you're not "vintage" anything. You're what they call a "knock off."

RADIO

What!??

COMPUTER

A replica. Fake. Cheap imitation. You're worth almost nothing.

Radio is stunned. His antenna droops limply.

RADIO

(gasping; whimpering)
I'm a... KNOCK-OFF???

Radio stagger towards the edge of the desk, sadly. The laptop sneaks up behind him.

LAPTOP

Yep. And now: I'll knock you OFF!

The laptop's DVD drive springs open and KNOCKS Radio off the desk. He falls to the floor. But he is too despondent to even cry. He lands with a dull thud.

INT. ROB'S BEDROOM - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Despite the commotion outside, Rob's bedroom is quiet and peaceful as Watson and Ray get to know each other better.

RAY

The Masters bought me years ago.

WATSON

Me too! Department store?

RAY

Yes, in the mall.

WATSON

I was on sale.

RAY

So was I!

They smiles and stare dreamily at each other.

WATSON

I know we've just met, but I feel like...

RAY

We were meant to be together.

WATSON

(dreamily)

Forever and ever.

RAY

No, actually... I think we were bought as part of a pair. That was the sale. But I got left here. You were taken to the cabin.

WATSON

(awkwardly)

Oh, uh... Yes. Of course. A pair.

RAY

But it's not everyday I meet a lamp who can light up a room like you.

Watson GIGGLES shyly when he says this. Watson is actually glowing as she speaks to Ray, alternately smiling broadly at him, and turning away shyly. She is like a schoolgirl, having her first crush.

INT. MAIN ROOM - ROB'S APARTMENT - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Toaster rushes over to find Radio lying face down on the floor. He shakes him to wake him up.

TOASTER

Get up, Radio! We've gotta move!

RADIO

(sniffling)

It's no use, Toaster. I'm
completely worthless. I'm even
more worthless than... than...

(weeping dramatically)

... THAN YOU!!!!

Radio just bursts into tears. Toaster frowns at the insult. He looks over to see ALLPHONE atop the mini-amp and Roomba, rolling towards them chariot-style.

ALLPHONE

Ah, my AllPhone All-Triumph is nearly complete. And now they shall-

On the way towards Toaster, the Roomba backs up for a second and sucks up some pieces of the busted up fans. AllPhone shoots it a dirty look.

ROOMBA

Sorry... Can't help it.

The Roomba keeps charging towards Toaster.

ALLPHONE

And now they shall feel the All-mighty force of my KILLER APPS!

AllPhone LAUGHS menacingly. An evil LAUGHING FACE appears on all the apartment's screens. The Mini-Amp slips out from underneath AllPhone and moves towards Radio and Toaster. It is joined by two, extremely tough XBox Controllers. All the other remaining active appliances — lamps, laptop, even a washer and dryer — march towards them. Toaster backs up, dragging the face-down Radio as the appliances close in. Toaster keeps backing up until he finds himself right next to a bedroom door, which opens a crack. Watson peeks out.

WATSON

Toaster! In here!

Toaster pulls Radio with him into the bedroom. They SLAM the door shut as the smart appliances LUNGE at it, trying to break the door down.

Just then, AllPhone LIGHTS UP -- the downstairs door is buzzing. An image from the front entrance camera appears on her screen -- we see a human delivery person dropping off several large boxes. AllPhone smiles.

ALLPHONE

Ah... Here comes the air support.

She sends a message to the packages. Suddenly... six remote-controlled, consumer DRONES BURST out of the package and begin slowly rising up towards the apartment.

INT. ROB'S BEDROOM - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Toaster, Watson, and Ray have now jammed their bodies against the door, trying to keep it shut as the appliances outside bang against it. Radio, however, just slumps on the floor.

TOASTER

Radio! A little help?

RADIO

(despondent)

Oh, what's the use. I'm... I'm...

(gasping; shuddering)

...A REPLICA!!!!

He begins WEEPING.

TOASTER

Look: it doesn't matter, Radio. You're still our friend. Me and

Watson. And...

(noticing Ray)

Who's this?

Watson snuggles up against Ray lovingly, rubbing her lamp part against his lamp part (as they lean against the door).

WATSON

Oh... This is Ray. He lights up my life.

RAY

And you make my world ever so brighter too.

Toaster and Radio exchange looks. Radio sighs.

RADIO

Now I'm even more depressed.

EXT. ROB'S APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY - CONTINUOUS

The "RIDE OF THE VALKRIES" plays as the six remote-controlled drones rise up from the ground, and begin flying towards the upper floors. They cruise around the building towards the window of Rob's apartment, which overlooks an alley next to the building. The drones then fly towards the bedroom window, like they are flying into war. They are just about to make a dramatic entrance when... CLUNK!

The drones bounce off the closed window. The MUSIC STOPS. They look around, confused for a moment, blocked by glass.

INT. ROB'S BEDROOM - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Toaster, Radio, Watson, and Ray look up towards the window to see... the drones bouncing into each other. The drones start to use their "limb-like" parts to force open the window.

TOASTER

We need to make sure that window stays shut!

The four appliances move towards the window. But as they do, they release pressure on the bedroom door. The appliances from the other room tumble in... along with ALLPHONE.

WATSON

Oh no!

As Toaster turns to see the Smart Appliances enter... the drones get the window open and fly in. Toaster and the others back up towards the bed. With nowhere to run, they slip under the bed, attempting to hide.

A beat as Toaster and the others hide under the bed. ALLPHONE looks up towards one of the drones, which picks her up and places her on a desk near the open window. She then gestures towards the Roomba, who rolls under the bed.

A MOMENT LATER: Toaster, Radio, Watson, and Ray are being pushed out by Roomba (snowplow-style) into the open again.

TOASTER

Okay... Maybe NOT the best hiding spot.

The other drones swoop down and pick up Toaster, Radio, Watson, and Ray (two of the drones lift the heavier Toaster). As the appliances dangle above the room, held aloft by the drones, there is no way for them to escape.

ALLPHONE

So... any last words, old timers?

Toaster looks around. He catches a glimpses of something out the window... down on the street below. An old beat-up car, parking by the curb.

TOASTER

Rob's car... He's coming home!

ALLPHONE

What!?! That can't be.

TOASTER

Guess you'd know where he was... $\underline{\text{IF}}$ he took you with him.

AllPhone SNEERS angrily (this is clearly a sore spot).

ALLPHONE

DUMPSTER THEM! NOW!

The drones fly towards the open window. In the alley below, we can see an open trash DUMPSTER. Watson SCREAMS. Ray reaches out to comfort her. Radio just SIGHS.

The appliances are being carried out the window when Toaster whips his cord onto the window frame and grabs on tight.

TOASTER

(gritting his teeth)
Just... gotta... hold on... `til
Rob gets in here.

EXT. ROB'S BEDROOM WINDOW - DAY - CONTINUOUS

As Toaster's cord grows taut, the two drones carrying him suddenly get pulled into a turn... that SLAMS them into the side of the building. They release Toaster as they SPUTTER and WOBBLE off into the alley, trying to steady themselves. Toaster is left hanging by his cord on the window frame.

INTERCUT BETWEEN EXT. BUILDING AND INT. ROB'S BEDROOM

AllPhone sees Toaster's plug, clinging to the window.

ALLPHONE

Oh, c'mon! Do I have to do EVERYTHING myself?!

AllPhone leaps off the desk, grabs onto the pull-string of the venetian blinds, and swings towards Toaster's plug that is clinging to the window frame. AllPhone KICKS at the plugshe even makes a KAPOW STARBURST on her screen as she kicks. But she is too lightweight to make any impact.

ALLPHONE (cont'd)

Help me with this, you mindless drones!

The drones are actually insulted by this. But they fly over, still carrying Watson, Ray, and (despondent) Radio.

RAY

I'll save you, my dear!

As they get near the window, Ray wraps his entire goose-neck portion around the window frame, stalling the drones, and causing them to CRASH into each other.

ALLPHONE

What're you guys doing? Drop them already!

The drones release Radio, Watson, and Ray.

WATSON

Rayyyy!

RAY

I've got you, my love!

Ray grabs Watson's cord with his own cord, as he continues to clutch the side of the window with his goose-neck.

Radio, however, falls towards the dumpster below.

RADIO

(with a sigh)

This is W-F-A-K-E, replica radio, signing offffffff...

Radio lands with a light THUMP in the dumpster below.

TOASTER

Radio!!!

AllPhone continues to "kick" at Toaster's plug.

ALLPHONE

(to the drones)

Close the window on them!

The drones begin sliding the window shut.

RAY

My love!

Ray tries to pull Watson up, but her wire slips. She drops into the dumpster below, screaming.

WATSON

Rayyyyyyyy!

Toaster struggles to hold on as the window comes down. At the last moment, he wraps his cord around AllPhone and pulls her out the window with him. The window SLAMS shut -- knocking Ray back into the room... and leaving AllPhone and Toaster outside, tumbling down towards the dumpster.

IN SLOW MOTION: Toaster and AllPhone fall several stories.

ALLPHONE

Noooooooooo!

AllPhone FLASHES emergency signals on her screens. An IMAGE OF A PARACHUTE appears... but does nothing to slow her fall. Toaster's cord flails, trying to grab onto <u>anything</u>! The building whips past them, faster and faster until...

THUNK! THUNK! The two land hard in the dumpster, jarring the hinged cover of the bin. It swings down, shutting them in.

INT. DUMPSTER - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Darkness. Until... AllPhone turns on. As her screen lights up, we see a corner of her screen glass is CRACKED.

ALLPHONE

Ahh! Is this a crack?!

(panicking)

No one wants a cracked smart phone!

AllPhone frantically grabs the debris around her -- old bags, tape, gum, etc. She quickly attempts to patch up her screen, but now she looks even worse.

ALLPHONE (cont'd)

If I can just stop it from spreading, I'll be okay.

(calling her minions)

Hello? Hello? Smart appliances?

Anyone out there?

Radio pokes his head out of the debris.

RADIO

You're broken too, huh. Actually, my parts are fine. It's my heart that's been SHATTERED.

ALLPHONE

No! Everything's working. I'm just too far for the Wi-Fi and bluetooth. I can't seem to get a signal. Oh no... OH NO!!!!

Patched-up AllPhone hops about in a panic, her screen light casting eerie shadows inside of the dumpster. As she moves, we see Toaster, Watson, and Radio, climbing from the debris. Suddenly, AllPhone's glass CRACKS a little more.

ALLPHONE (cont'd)

Eeeeeek!

She quickly tries patching up this crack too.

ALLPHONE (cont'd)

(panicking)

How can this happen? What am I doing here? Where am I?

Toaster looks around in the darkness, lit by AllPhone's glow.

TOASTER

The Dark Place. Actually, the darkest of all Dark Places... The Dumpster.

Watson GASPS.

WATSON

No... I finally meet the lamp of my dreams, and... I get dumpstered?

(panicking; screaming)

Get us out of here, AllPhone!

ALLPHONE

What? How'm I supposed to do that? I'm a smartphone, not some sort of "dumpster-escaping phone."

TOASTER

When does this bin get picked up?

ALLPHONE

Oh, sometime around... (meekly)

... Now?

Just then they hear the LOUD GROWL of a Garbage Truck.

EXT. STREET OUTSIDE ALLEY - DAY - CONTINUOUS

The Reaper Bros. Garbage Truck that has been "haunting" our gang the entire journey slowly rolls up towards the alley. (Note: it may not be the same EXACT truck, but it's from the same company that does the trash disposal in this region.)

INT. DUMPSTER - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Everyone yells in panic...

TOASTER/WATSON/ALLPHONE

Ahhhhhhhh!

...except Radio.

RADIO

Whatever. It's all pointless anyway. Like Kirby said: "Can't escape The Dark Place."

TOASTER

I don't believe that. We CAN escape. And we WILL escape. We wouldn't even be here if it wasn't for that AllPhone.

ALLPHONE

Me? What're you talking about, Toaster? Did I drag MY friends halfway across the country? And for what?

TOASTER

I did it for Rob. I did it for us. So we could light, and play, and clean, and make toast.

ALLPHONE

And how's that's going for you?

Toaster looks away sadly.

INTERCUT BETWEEN INT. AND EXT. DUMPSTER

The Reaper Bros. truck is too big to enter the alley, so the Driver exits and heads for the dumpster so he can roll it from the alley into the street.

INSIDE THE DUMPSTER: the appliances suddenly feel the bin moving. They brace themselves.

WATSON

Oh that's not good.

ALLPHONE

Don't judge me, Toaster. You risked all their lives... just so you can make some toast.

Toaster SNARLS at AllPhone. He is about to reply and tell AllPhone how he has only been trying to help everyone... to make their lives better... to save them all. But then he stops. A realization sinks in. He takes a deep breath.

TOASTER

You're right...

WATSON

What?!

TOASTER

Look at what I did to you guys. Watson got fried by lightning, then found AND lost the love of her life. Blankie was attacked by animals. And Radio? He used to think he was the most valuable antique in the world. And now...

RADIO

You helped kill my dream, Toaster. So, yeah... you kinda stink.

TOASTER

I know. And Kirby... He gave his life for all of us.

The dumpster continues to wobble as it is rolled.

ALLPHONE

Ha! See what you've done? Think I'm bad? I just wanted to do my thing. Like we all do. But I'm always the first to go.

The dumpster BUMPS abrasively as it leaves the alley and heads into the street.

TOASTER

What're you talking about? Rob would never toss you. Look at us: he kept us forever.

ALLPHONE

I know, but you... You're old.

WATSON

(groaning)

Yes. We know. You've told us that many, MANY times.

ALLPHONE

I'm a high-tech smartphone.

WATSON

Again... We get it.

ALLPHONE

You're built to last. I'm built to be obsolete five minutes after the Master takes me home.

RADIO

Seriously? Wow... I kind of envied you and all your fancy features. But now... you're even sadder and more desperate than all of us.

The Driver positions the bin in front of the hulking truck. The face on the truck smiles hungrily (unseen by Driver)

ALLPHONE

And that's why I hated all of you so much, right from the start. Seeing all you lucky antiques...

RADIO

REPLICA antique.

ALLPHONE

--It's not fair. I'll never get to grow as old and useless as you.

WATSON

Again, we're not THAT useless.

ALLPHONE

I see you, and all I can think is... I wish I WAS you.

Toaster, Watson, and Radio exchange baffled looks.

The Driver operates a lever on the side of the truck, attempting to line up the truck's lifting forks. The bin continues to bump as the forks knock it.

RADIO

You want to be me? A "knock-off" with no web connections?

ALLPHONE

I want to live. I want to thrive. I want to do what I was built to do.

As AllPhone says this, the CRACK SPREADS across her screen, making her look even more broken and pathetic.

TOASTER

That's all any of us ever wanted.

A beat, as this sinks in for the appliances.

WATSON

That's why we came here to find Rob, right?

The dumpster SHAKES as the forks connect to it, about to lift it. Suddenly, Toaster gets an idea.

TOASTER

That's it! Find Rob! I saw him pulling up in his car. Let's make some noise! Maybe he'll hear it when he enters the building.

ALLPHONE

Oh... I have a better idea.

EXT. ROB'S APARTMENT BUILDING ENTRANCE - DAY

Rob is heading for the front door when he suddenly hears a phone ringing in the direction of the garbage truck.

ROE

AllPhone? I thought I left you in the apartment.

Rob heads towards the dumpster, now attached to the truck.

INT./EXT. DUMPSTER - DAY - CONTINUOUS

AllPhone is RINGING, as Toaster, Radio, and Watson watch. Suddenly... THUMP! The entire dumpster moves.

WATSON

What was that?

The Driver is now in the truck, operating the lifting forks. The dumpster is just about to rise.

TOASTER

Louder! LOUDER!

AllPhone RINGS LOUDER. She is ringing so loud that her screen CRACKS even more

The garbage truck lifts the dumpster slightly, preparing to empty it into its CRUSHING interior.

Just then, Rob rushes over.

ROB

Hey! Stop! I hear my phone in there! It has a very unique ring.

But the Truck Driver does not see or hear Rob.

ROB (cont'd)

Oh, never mind. I'll get it.

He quickly moves to the dumpster and opens its top. He is about to reach inside when he sees...

ROB (cont'd)

Toaster? Lamp? Radio? AllPhone? What're you all doing heerrrre!

Suddenly, the dumpster jerks upwards dramatically. Rob tumbles into the bin as it is raised into the air.

Rob lands in the dumpster and CLUNKS his head. Knocked out cold. The other appliances dig themselves out of the trash and rush over to him.

TOASTER

Rob! Rob! ROB!

WATSON

Oh no! Oh no! Rob got dumpstered!

RADIO

And we're gonna get CRUSHED!

The bin rises higher, about to tilt its contents into the vehicle's crushing mechanism.

ALLPHONE

Noooooooooo!

But just before the dumpster is tipped...

BRAKES SCREECHING. A car is skidding to a stop in front of the truck, just inches away from the garbage truck's bumper.

The truck GROWLS. We REVEAL: the car that stopped is...

ALVA. Its face SNARLS back. It HONKS its horn loudly.

The human truck Driver doesn't see the faces of the vehicles, but the situation is strange enough for him to stop everything, including the dumping of the bin. The Driver steps curiously out of the truck.

DRIVER

What the...?

With the bin titled sideways, Toaster is able to climb to the top of it and peek out to see...

TOASTER

Alva? What's she doing here?

Alva's trunk opens. A beat as we wonder what will happen. And then out of the trunk steps...

TOASTER (cont'd)

Kirby...?

The vacuum cleaner steers into the middle of the street, staring down the menacing garbage truck.

DRIVER

Uh... Hello? Is this some kind of self-driving car... and vacuum?

Kirby GROWLS and stares intensely. The Driver continues.

DRIVER (cont'd)

You've gotta move. I have to finish emptying this dumpster.

Kirby GROWLS louder. The Driver only hears a vacuum WHIRRING its engine. And then... Kirby speeds ahead, right towards the Driver, who seems very confused. He panics, like a deer caught in the headlights (of an electric car). Kirby RAMS right into the Driver. Hard.

DRIVER (cont'd)

Yeeeeowww!

He starts hopping about on one foot. Kirby rams again.

DRIVER (cont'd)

What're you doing?! Stop that!

Kirby GROWLS and attacks again, and again, and again. The Driver tumbles back. In an effort to balance himself, he grabs onto the side of the truck and actually hits the leverit makes the bin keep tipping.

The appliances yell, as the bin tilts towards: THE CRUSHING INTERIOR. The inside of the truck looks like a giant mouth with SNAPPING FANGS, about to CRUNCH them into oblivion.

WATSON, RADIO, ALLPHONE

Nooooooooo!

Toaster stands intensely on the edge of the bin. He sees the lever pushed by the Driver on the side of the truck.

TOASTER

I can fix this. I know I can.

Toaster steels his nerve and narrows his eyes. He speaks with the over-dramatic intensity of his first line of dialog.

TOASTER

(intensely)

I...AM... TOASTER.

Toaster leaps.

He glides in SLOW MOTION away from the bin and drops down on the side of the truck... landing right into one of the gears of the truck's lifting mechanism. The lifting arm suddenly GRINDS to a halt... as TOASTER is partially crushed in it.

As Toaster is squeezed, he groans again...

TOASTER (cont'd)

(groaning)

I... am... Toast...ughhhh...

Toaster is too weak to finish his sentence. Kirby GROWLS one more time at the Driver, who runs off YELLING. Kirby throws his cord onto Toaster, trying to pull him free.

KIRBY (cont'd)

Toaster! What're you doing?! I didn't get chased by some crazy fool with a shopping cart just to see you get flattened by some truck!

ALVA

And I didn't accidently run into that vacuum cleaner while he was being chased... and rush him over here... just so you could get flattened by some truck.

The Garbage Truck GROWLS. ALVA turns angrily back towards the vehicles and HONKS back aggressively. Just then...

ROB (O.S.)

(moaning inside dumpster)

WATSON

C'mon... Help him out.

Radio and Watson have climbed up to the edge of the dumpster, and are using their cords to lift Rob. We see his hand extends over the edge.

ROB

Where am I...?

KIRBY

The Master? Dumpstered? Well, I'll be... Guess it happens to the best of us.

Just then, Kirby sees the cracked AllPhone standing on the edge of the bin, watching the others.

KIRBY (cont'd)

And the worst of us too.

ALLPHONE

You go on. There's no future here for me.

AllPhone's screen crack is even worse, stretching from top to her bottom. No amount of "bandages" can hide it.

ALLPHONE (cont'd)

No one keeps their smartphone when it's THIS cracked. I belong in that Dark Place.

AllPhone gestures towards the DARK CRUNCHING interior of the truck. She is about to leap in.

RADIO

See ya!

But Toaster looks urgently over towards Kirby.

TOASTER

Kirby... We can't let her do that. She really is just like us. She just wants to do her thing -- what she was built to do.

KIRBY

Could've fooled me.

TOASTER

The Dark Place is NO Place for ANY appliance. You know that better than all of us.

Kirby frowns as he ponders these words.

KIRBY

Ughh... Like I said before, you are one Brave Little Toaster, but one DARN BIG FOOL!

Toaster forces a smile through his crunched-up pain.

KIRBY

Hold on, AllPhone: this might SUCK a bit.

Kirby positions his vacuuming ends towards AllPhone. He then SUCKS as hard as he can and...

ALLPHONE

Wahhhhhh!

As AllPhone gets sucked into Kirby's vacuum...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CABIN - DAY

Establishing shot. Rob's beat-up car is parked out front.

INT. KITCHEN IN CABIN - DAY

ON TOASTER: slightly dented. Suddenly, two slices of toast POP out of his slots. Rob races over, and grabs them.

ROB

Look, Lily: does this guy make the best toast or what?

Rob places the toast on a plate and carries it over to Lily, who is waiting with a jar of jam.

LILY

Fresh, country jam. Want to eat out on the porch?

ROB

Thought you'd never ask.

As they exit, Toaster smiles warmly, ecstatically, glowing from his toaster slots. This is all he ever wanted to do.

Radio plays his tunes from the shelf above.

RADIO

Good to be back, fellas. Feels so real... Even though I'm a fake.

Just then, Kirby WHIRRS out, cleaning up any crumbs dropped by Rob as he passed.

KIRBY

Oh, quiet down, static-face You're disturbing our lovebird lamps.

CAMERA MOVES TO REVEAL: both Ray and Watson are in the cabin now, sliding across the counter towards each other, where they hug their necks. Just then, Kirby's bag unzips and out pops AllPhone (still with cracked screen).

ALLPHONE

ALLPHONE (cont'd)

They belong together. That's what their factory instructions say.

AllPhone calls up the instructions on his phone.

TOASTER

Nice. Glad you could join us here in the "Stone Ages," AllPhone.

ALLPHONE

Well, I've been replaced, but not forgotten -- thanks to you guys. And to be honest, it's not that bad. Still got some functions.

Images and webpages appear on AllPhone's cracked screen.

ALLPHONE

I even found these photos on the web from that park ranger station you told me about.

TOASTER

(excitedly)

Is Blankie in them?!

ALLPHONE

See for yourself...

AllPhone scrolls through some images from a Facebook-style post by Ranger James. The pictures show a variety of rescued animals. Several of them are wrapping (lovingly) by a smiling Blankie.

TOASTER

Awww... I've never seen him so happy. He's found his purpose.

KIRBY

That's all any of us ever wanted.

Suddenly, Blinx swings in with the other nightlights.

BLINX

Speak for yourself! We don't just light this place -- we protect it. Did we ever tell you about how we scared that realtor?

TOASTER/KIRBY/RADIO/WATSON

Yes!!

BLINX

Oh, good. Wanna hear it again?

TOASTER/KIRBY/RADIO/WATSON

No!

BLINX

Well, here it goes. It all started with the TONK-TONK-TONK of a sign being hammered into the lawn..

As Blinx "regales" the others with his story about the Realtor, Kirby turns to Toaster.

KIRBY

Think we can make a break out the back door again?

TOASTER

I'll ask Watson to grab the extension cords.

KIRBY

Probably NOT the worst idea ever.

The two exchange a warm, playful smile. Just then, they hear... THE DOOR opening. Rob and Lily are returning.

TOASTER (cont'd)

But first...

KIRBY

Do your thing, Toaster. And do it well.

Toaster smiles. Everyone gets back into position, including Toaster. Rob crosses the cabin and puts two slices of bread in toaster and pushes them down. He gives Toaster a gentle pat. Toaster smiles ecstatically.

TOASTER (cont'd)

(dramatically)

I... am... Toaster.

As Toaster warms away, and all the other appliances grin...

FADE TO BLACK.